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The animal smuggling racket

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# Israeli-owned firms doing business with Iran

#### By STEVE RODAN

Over the last two years, Iran has been purchasing medical and hitech equipment through Israeli companies that have subsidiaries in

Europe, industry sources said. The equipment has been ordered by Iranian officials from companies including Salgad and Geneva, a company partially owned by Koor. Industry sources said Salgad, a trading company, was established to conduct trade with Iranian companies in fields ranging from farming to communications.

A 'good' Israeli

Koor executives have denied conducting business with Iran.

But Ilan Traitel, director-general of the Beersheba-based Medent, said, the Iranians are interested in everything that you can offer them.

"They are interested in agriculture, high-technology, and computers. They don't say no to anything," said Traitel, whose company supplies Iran with medical and laboratory equipment.

Traitel said Medent trades with Iran through a third country, which, he would not name. He said that contacts with Iran were launched during last June's Akema trade

show in Frankfirt.

**Teheran Declaration** slams Israel, Page 6

"We are offering them incubators, hot plate stirrers, laboratory ovens,"

he said. These are the main equipment. And they pay." Business circles close to Israel's

trade with Iran estimate it at an annual nine-digit figure in US dol-

Meanwhile, Israeli officials are probing the possibility of resolving fran's claim that Israel owes it \$1 billion from oil dealings during the shah's rule, by having Russian companies purchase the deht. Israel would in turn buy Russian natural gas and invest in Russia.

Israel and Iran have quietly agreed to arbitration on the issue with the help of Germany. Israeli officials, particularly National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, hope that an agreement with Teheran could lead to the Islamic republic moderating its

stance toward Israel. Earlier this week, Israel Radio reported that a group of 16 agricul-ture experts secretly visited Iran and met with its deputy agriculture minister. Their visit came following Iranian approaches to European subsidiaries of Israeli companies in search of irrigation equipment and spare parts for tractors and com-bines bought in the 1970s.



#### Criticizing the critics

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu speaks to reporters in Tel Aviv last night about a lengthy newspaper report critical of his wife Sara's behavior, as she looks on. In his brief comments, he called the report 'loathsome' and 'evil.' Story, Page 4.

# Ministers fail to agree on pullback map

#### By JAY BUSHINSKY

A four-member ministerial team yesterday failed in its third attempt to map the parameters of the next IDF withdrawal in the West Bank, and therefore will be unable to present a consensus on this issue to the cabinet when it convenes on Sunday, a senior government source said.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who heads the team, tended to agree with the approach advocated by Foreign Minister David Levy. They contend that the additional areas to be handed over to the Palestinian Authority should

be specified to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright when she meets with Netanyahu in Paris next

Albright also will hold talks with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, probably in Geneva, after which Arafat and Netanyahu are due to meet in

The team members differ over whether the territorial ingredients will suffice or whether there must be a precise recipe," the source said. The source said there are "several nuances, but no definitive

He also ruled out having a discussion at Sunday's cabinet meeting on the percentage of territory to be relinquished. He predicted the ministers will hear two or three different positions on the projected withdrawal

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai National Minister Ariel Infrastructure Sharon will argue that Netanyahu should inform Albright of the principles guiding the cabinet in its effort to demarcate the projected pullback, but not mention any spe-

cific areas. Mordechai's spokesman denied a report on Israel Radio that he favors withdrawal from 13 percent of the territory in question.

"The defense establishment proposed several alternatives for the second redeployment, but none of them encompasses 13 percent of the area," he said.

Sharon advocates the creation of security zones parallel to the Jordan River and the Green Line, retention of the Judean Desert, and jurisdiction over all of the West Bank settlements and their access roads.

He will urge the cabinet to join him on a tour of the areas under discussion and will oppose their taking my decisions on redeployment before they see the area.

See PULLBACK, Page 12

#### Senior US official on eve of Indyk visit

## Albright won't pressure PM

#### By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - In a diplomatic maneuver evidently intended to drive home the Clinton administration's abiding interest in the map-making process, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Martin Indyk is to arrive in Israel today.

He is expected to confer with Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and other members of the four-minister team during his. stay. He also is likely to meet Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and senior Palestinian officials.

Indyk will join Secretary of

State Madeleine Albright for her talks with Netanyahu and Arafat in Europe next week.

A senior administration official said yesterday that "while there is still a strongly felt sense of urgency" that Albright will continue to convey when she meets with Netanyahu and Arafat, "we don't know how long this is going to take. We have been at this effort for many months now."

The US expects to conduct "a more detailed discussion" with Netanyahu on his plans for the next phase of the redeployment, hnt does not believe be will come armed with maps, the official said. "As to what he brings, that's his

decision. We are not making any demands or placing any expectations on him.

Indyk will visit Syria and Jordan before joining Albright. However, a US official said that "this is not the start of a new initiative" to resuscitate the frozen Israeli-Syrian talks.

"It is unrealistic to expect that progress could be made on the Israeli-Syrian track until we've got the Israeli-Palestinian track

moving again," the official said. The US, meanwhile has retreated from the position it laid out last

See ALBRIGHT, Page 12

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## Hanukka to light up NY skyline

#### By MARILYN HENRY

Forget the giant Lubavitch menora in Central Park. The New York skyline will mark the first night of Hanukka with its most famous skyscraper, when the

North American Newsstand Prices for J.P. Friday Edition NY, NJ: \$3.00 Canada: CDN \$5.00 + TAX Elsewhers: \$4.00

Jerusalem 4:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 4:18 p.m. 5:17 p.m. 4:07 p.m. 5:14 p.m. Halfa Beersheba 4:18 p.m. 5:14 p.m. 4:20 p.m. 5:21 p.m. Empire State Building will he illuminated with hlue and white

The 102-story Empire State glows on various occasions. It's green and red each year at Christmas, and lavender on Gay Pride Weekend. The building was bathed in blue to celebrate the birthday of Frank "O!" Blue Eves" Sinatra and to mourn the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

But it never marked Hanukka until Mallory Blair Greitzer, a nine-year-old from the Upper East Side, wrote to the building to ask for the special lighting.
"They said, 'No way, Jose' -

every religion gets one holiday. and we had Jewish Independence Day," she told The New York referring to

Ha'atzma'ut. "But when I think of Jewish holidays, I think of

Mallory's father then wrote to Leona Helmsley, whose company, Helmsley-Spear, manages the building. Helmsley, who has a wicked reputation as New York's "Queen of Mean," ordered that the building's lights be hiue and white on the night of December 23. Mallory is expected to hit the light switch.

She was touched when I showed her the correspondence from this young girl," Helmsley's publicist, Howard Rubenstein, told the Times. "Her feeling was that it is appropriate and good for New York interreligious understand-

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## **NEWS**

#### A-G: Politicians must deal with extradition

While agreeing that the Palestinian Authority's refusal to extradite the murderers of Eta and Efraim Tzur, who were killed a year ago, is a violation of the Oslo Accords, Noam Solberg, a senior aide to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, said that "the matter has been referred to the political echelon, which must take into account all the political, security, and other relevant factors and decide accordingly."

Solberg was replying to a request by MK Hanan Porat (National Religious Party) that his office work to secure the extraditions.

#### Horn-honking murder suspect remanded

Petah Tikva Magistrate's Court Judge Noga Ohad yesterday remanded suspected murderer Haim Luzon for five more days. On Monday, Luzon, 24, allegedly stabbed to death Pavel Ya'akovchuk with a switchblade knife, after Ya'akovchuk complained about Luzon honking his truck's horn repeatedly outside his Petah Tikva apartment house.

Police said the two argued, then Ya'akovchuk punched Luzon and Luzon stabbed him in the heart.

Luzon's attorney argued that his client stabbed Ya'akovchuk in self-defense, while a police representative presented the court with classified new evidence that he said required his continued

#### Kiryat Shmona gets new mayor

The Kiryat Shmona City Council last night elected Likud member Haim Barbivi as mayor, to replace Prosper Azran following his retirement. Barbivi, 42, a mechanical engineer, said he would carry out the Interior Ministry's recovery program and fire dozens of extraneous workers appointed by his predecessor. The ministry intends to hold early municipal elections in Kiryat Shmona within eight months, due to the city's growing deficit of over NIS 30 million. The election date is to be set after the completion of a ministry investigation of the city administration.

#### Six Israelis on way home from Indian jail

Six Israelis, imprisoned two years ago in India on drug charges, are returning home. Three are to arrive today and the others on Sunday. Both the Foreign Ministry and President Ezer Weizman worked for their release and had hired Indian lawyers to appeal their convictions. Two weeks ago, an Indian court accepted their appeal and ordered them freed.

#### Former SS commander indicted

A former SS officer was indicted yesterday for the reprisal killings of 15 Italians in Milan during World War II, the ANSA news agency reported. Theodor Saewecke, 86, was scheduled to go on trial March 20 on a charge of "violence by means of homicide of Italian citizens," ANSA said. Saewecke was the SS commander in Milan when 15 Italians were executed on August 10, 1944, as a reprisal for a resistance attack.

The case was brought by Turin military prosecutors investigating slayings of civilians by the German occupiers, Prosecutor Pier Paolo Rivello said he would ask for Saewecke's extradition from Germany only after a conviction, according to ANSA. AP

#### One killed, two hurt in crash

Awad Alig. 23, of El Azazma in the Negev, was killed yester-day when he lost control of his car and crashed into an empty bus parked by the side of the road, between Beersheba and

Two passengers suffered moderate to serious injuries. They are being treated at Beersheba's Soroka Hospital.

#### Man drowns off Ashkelon

The body of an unidentified man, about 30, was found on Ashkelon's Delila Beach yesterday morning. As the police have received no reports of a missing person fitting the description, it is thought the man might be a foreign worker.

# PA urges defiance of census law

#### By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

While the Palestinian census proceeded for the second day yesterday, the tug-of-war over the count in Jerusalem continued to be an issue between the government and the Palestinian Authority.

The Palestinian Legislative Council urged residents of eastern Jerusalem to defy the Israeli law that was passed late Wednesday night, barring "activities of a political or governmental nature, or any such similar activities that do not respect the sovereignty of the State of Israel" by the PA or "any person working on its behalf."

We call on the Palestinian residents of Jerusalem to ignore the Israeli occupation law and to exercise their right to provide information to the census takers," said a council statement.

NEWS

Hassan Abu Libdeh, the director of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, declared the first day of the census a success.

Pressed at a news conference in Jenin about whether the count would also yield results in Jerusalem, Abu Libdeh said, "1 believe it will," but he was vague when asked how it would be carried out. "We are not at liberty to

reveal our cards. We are working according to a program, and the truth will be in the results."

Abu Libdeh said that Israeli resistance to the census io Jerusalem is a "hostile provocation. Israel's objection is meaningless due to the fact that the whole world supports the Palestinian Authority."

There was speculation that some of the census information might be collected by fax or telephone, rather than volumeers going door to door, and that other census takers might pose as students collecting data for research.

But the call to participate in the

even in villages outside Jerusalem, where many residents with Israeli identity cards refused to be counted.

The PA sent four field workers to Azzaim, 5 km. east of Jerusalem, but they were rebuffed except by a few families. In some cases, people even refused to let them into their homes, which resulted in one of the census takers resigning.

A supervisor was sent to try to convince the villagers to participate, without success.

Reuters adds: The US yesterday refused to

census was not universally heard takes sides in the census dispute. Calling Jerusalem "the most sensitive issue" between the two parties, deputy spokesman James Foley said the State Department had decided not to make any

definitive public comment. "Jerusalem is really the most sensitive issue and it's one that we believe that the parties have agreed to treat when they gettiopermanent-status negotia-

tions," he told reporters.
"We believe, in that context, that anything that we might say on this issue, on Jerusalem, would be unhelpful at this point," he said.

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## IDF on high alert for terror group anniversaries

#### By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The security forces have been put on high alert over the weekend against possible terror attacks, military sources said.

The alert comes as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Hamas mark the anniversaries of their founding. The PFLP marked its 30th

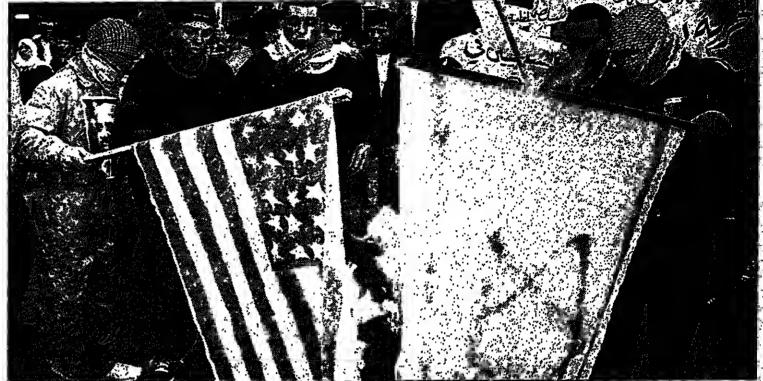
anniversary yesterday. Hamas is marking its anniversary on Sunday.

Military sources said that there were no concrete warnings of attacks, but intelligence assessments presumed the anniversaries could be a catalyst for such actions.

The IDF has beefed up some patrols, a military source said. Jewish settlers have been warned and security chiefs in settlements in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip have been briefed on the

"It's not just a single day, but an atmosphere that is being created due to the anniversaries," the military source said.

Last year, PFLP terrorists shot dead Eta Tzur and her son Efraim, as they drove oear Ramallah on their way bome to Beit-El.



Palestinians burn an American and an Israeli flag during a rally in Ramallah yesterday marking the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

### Joint Knesset panel approves NIS 32b. defense budget

#### By Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

The Finance and Defense ministries reached an accord on the 1998 defense budget yesterday, clearing a major burdle towards

COUNT THE DAYS **RON ARAD** 4 0 7 5 Days J. POLLARD

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getting the budget through the Knesset by the end of the year, an official said yesterday.

There was an agreement to fix the budget at NIS 32 billion, but the Defense Ministry is still seeking to bave the figure updated by five percent annually," five percent annually," a spokesman for the Knesset said.

David Ivry, special adviser to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, criticized the budget and said that the ministry needed an annual increase of 5% for the

next decade, Israel Radio reported. The budget was approved by a joint committee of the Knesset Finance and Foreign Affairs and Defense committees.

The Treasury won cabinet approval to cut defense spending. next year, as part of efforts to rein in the total budget deficit to 2.4 percent of gross domestic product. 1.5 billioo to cover increased pre-

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816894 won NIS 5.000. Tickets ending in 07096, 47017, 09556, 29008, 81362, 06104, 53032, 65729, 04664, 35372, 72028, 96921, 75197, 75101, 10449, 63825,20591,15007 and 35843 won NIS 1.000. Tickets ending in 519,527,778 and 752 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 76,21,16 and 27 won NIS 30. Tickets ending in 85 and 67 won NIS

20. Tickets ending in 3 and 7 won NIS 10.

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A prophetic word given to Grant B. Livingstone Shalom Israel Ministries, P.O.B. 24116, Jerusalem

The God of Israel's glory Who watches over His Word, the Holy Bible, to perform it, and Who recorded in it long ago that He gave to Abraham and to His seed through Yitzhak and then Jacob "all the land of Canaan for an 🗔 everlasting possession," but straitly commanded them, "The land shall not be sold forever, for the land is mine saith the Lord, and ye are strangers and sojourners with me" - Who warned by His servant Moses that if Israel persisted in disobeying Him, she would be scattered among all nations -Israel did and was - but Who promised by His prophet Jeremiah that "He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him as a shepherd does his flock has He not done exactly as His Word says, openly in the sight of all men. even in this day?

Why then do Israel's enemies, who despise My Word, rise up to supplant them. Why do they attempt to seduce My people Israel, to defy Me unto wrath, by trying to sell My land entrusted to them - trusting men and their: pretensions of peace and deceitful "guarantees"? Why, like Balaam, do they keep trying to "curse whom God hath not cursed?" Why do they seek to inherit the wind, My scornful laughter, forgetting that "all the nations that." forget God shall lurn into hell?? Are they not "as the small dust in the ...

But My Word shall stand, while theirs shall be as that dust. Though Israel defy Me and be sorely punished, and her enemies be grievously punished, is she shall prevail over them all; for I preserve her. And their expectations shall perish, while My peace shall be Israel's portion, and the portion of all who stand with her, says the God of Israel. For My Word is fixed and will not be

Why do her enemies not heed My warnings in the Scriptures? - He asks.1 hold responsible to heed My warnings those that have the Scriptures, and those that have been warned by My pastors and faithful ones, who have warned of My fixed purpose of restoring My ancient people to "their own land," and to "possess their possessions."

Why do those who think their "peace" better than My true peace try to overturn the ruler of My people Israel, whom I have set to defend the integrity. of My land and its peace? Why do they not see that the resistance to their folly is Mine, not his, and it is God they are fighting - as Balaam did. Why do they not see that his standing fast is the key to their own peace, and if he should fail, I will allow their enemies to bring on them the war they rightly dread?

The scriptures alluded to or cited, for confirmation and study, are (in order): Psaim 1292, Jeremian 1:12, Genesis 17:86, Leviticus 25:23, 26:33, Jeremian 3:19, Numbers 23:8, 19, Psaim 2, Isalah 40:15, Psaim 119:89, Metinew 5:18, Matthew 24:35, Jeremian 23:8, all of Obaclah, Isalah 34:8-10

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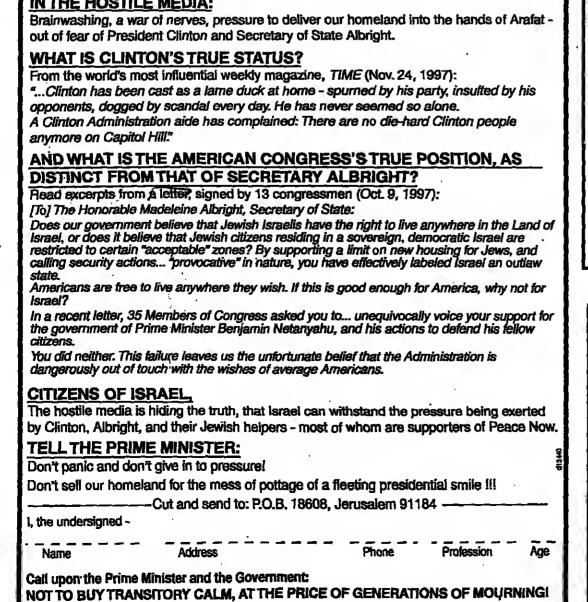


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TO BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

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The Jerusalem Post

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Former prime minister MK Shimon Peres (left) meets with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo yesterday.

## PA economy focus of Peres trip

CAIRO (Reuters) - Former prime minister have introduced to the president and I hope MK Shimon Peres met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday to suggest ways to help the Palestinian economy.

The Nobel peace laureate in October launched the private Peres Center for Peace to promote peace through projects that foster economic opportunity.

"We are interested in seeing our Palestinian neighbors doing well economically, not only administratively. We have some ideas that I

we can work together in order to implement," Peres told reporters after the meeting.

"Peace moves on two legs: an economic leg and a political leg. While the political leg is basically in the hands of the government, the economic leg is open to be moved by different forces," he said.

Peres said he did not envision putting ecooomic pressure on Israel's government, which he said international support for

Palestinians could do, but rather "mobilizing financial means by introducing industries, adopting proper plans, with the full consent of the Palestinians, Mr. Arafat, without the objection of the Israeli government and with the support of the Europeans and the Americans."

We can't allow all the pressure both economic and political to be on the shoulders of Arafat. We would like to belp at least in the economic sector." he added.

## IAF jets fly long-range training sorties in Turkey

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Israeli fighter jets have carried out 120 sorties in Turkey this year, many of them practice for long-range missions, since Israeli air space is so limited. Israeli CH-53 transport helicopters have also recorded over 120 sorties from another Turkish Air Force base, a senior defense official said in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Turkey has come under criticism by Moslem countries for such cooperation. On Wednesday President Sulcyman Demirel withdrew from a global Islamic summit in Teheran to avoid facing additional criticism of his country's ties with Israel. He defended his country's military accord with Israel, saying the agreement is hilateral and does not pose a threat to any third country.

The defense official said that

IAF helicopter pilots have become familiar with the Turkish terrain, which helped them to respond quickly to a Turkish request last July to help put out a fire at the country's main munitions plant.

This week, Israel was put on the short list for supplying ammuni-tion to Turkey, whose bomb-production facility was seriously damaged in the fire. The

announcement coincidentally came during Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's visit, which he said opened the door for many lucrative defense contracts.

Israel and Turkey signed a defense cooperation agreement in 1996 which allows pilots from both countries to train in each other's country. The IAF desperately lacks air space and its training areas are being restricted more and more. Turkey can provide long-distance training grounds. For their part, Turkish pilots are about to enhance their flight training with advanced Israeli simula-

tors and technology.

Meanwhile, a senior officer yesterday dismissed a report in London's Foreign Report that the IAF will permanently station jets in Turkey.

In Ankara, Turkish military headquarters announced that the joint naval maneuvers among Israel, Turkey, and the United States is to be beld January 5-9. The maneuvers, dubbed "Reliant Mermaid," were previously scheduled for October and then November

The aim of the exercises is to develop joint training for sea-air search and rescue operations among the three nations' fleets,"

an army statement said. Defense officials in Tel Aviv would only confirm that the exercise is to be beld at the beginning of January. Demir Metchan adds from

Ankara: The semi-annual strategic talks between Turkey and Israel are to be held in Ankara on December 22, Turkish and Israeli defense sources said. The talks, the third since the 1996 military alliance was formed, are aimed at furthering an evaluation of joint threats and responses to them as well as oumerous defense industry issues. Deputy Chief of General Staff Gen. Cevik Bir will lead the Turkish delegation, while David Ivry, Mordechai's special adviser,

will head the Israeli delegation. Turkish defense sources said the talks will focus on the increasing ballistic missile threat from Iran and Syria.

Meanwhile, the busy political traffic between Israel and Turkey is intensifying day by day. Turkish Defense Minister Undersecretary Lt.-Gen. Tuncer Kilinc is to visit Israel on December 21 to discuss details of the F-4 modernization agreement that Ankara signed with Israel. Turkish Land Forces Commander Gen. Huseyin Kivnkoglu is to visit in January.

## OK planned for Farrakhan visit

Jews, Jewry and Judaism.

Farrakhan visit and no final deci-

sions have been made, officials said.

than Farrakhan's...

Liat Collins adds.

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Louis Farrakhan, the Nation of Islam leader whose comments about Jows and Judaism have deeply offended US Jews, evideotly will be admitted to Israel, but will not be allowed to meet with any government leaders.

Government officials indicated yesterday that a final decision has not been reached on the projected visit, with one saying only "there is a tendency to let him, but not to

meet with him." Farrakhan, who has been on a world tour for the past two months, is expected to arrive here in mid-January as the guest of Jerusalem's Islamic leaders.

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MK Ophir Pines (Labor) has written to Foreign Minister David Levy demanding that Farrakhan He conveyed his desire to see

Minister Binyamin be given no official treatment dur-Netanyahu during his stay, but the ing his planned visit to Israel. officials said this will be out of the "Farrakhan's past is full of antiquestion "unless be retracts" the

semitic and racist statements and offensive remarks be made about incitement against the Jews, Iudaism and other groups," wrote Pines. "Israel as a democratic Eighteen years ago, Rev. Jesse state cannot and should not stop Jackson was refused a meeting with Menachem Begin during a Farrakhan from entering the counvisit here. He, too, had made try but he should be dealt with as derogatory statements about Jews, a regular tourist on a visit, Any but they were much less vitriolic form of legitimacy given him by special meetings or in any other Deliberations are continuing at the manner will cause serious harm to Foreign Ministry about the Israel and its image.

"If Farrakhan is truly interested in peace and conciliation he must first take back the inflammatory rhetoric in which he excels, and prove his willingness to make a real reconciliation with our people."

## Monitoring panel blames Israel for deaths

NAKOURA (AP) - A five-nation also considered a second commonitoring group yesterday held Israel responsible for bombings that killed three Lebanese civilians on the edge of the security zone in southern Lebanon.

The committee had been meeting since Tuesday in the Lebanese coastal town of Nakoura over the Lebanese complaint about the bomb explosions last Friday. It

plaint about the expulsion of a Lebanese-American citizen from Israeli-held territory that day. Hizbullah accused the IDF of

planting the bombs in a ravine near the village of Majdal Silim, where a shepherd and two body shop workers were killed.

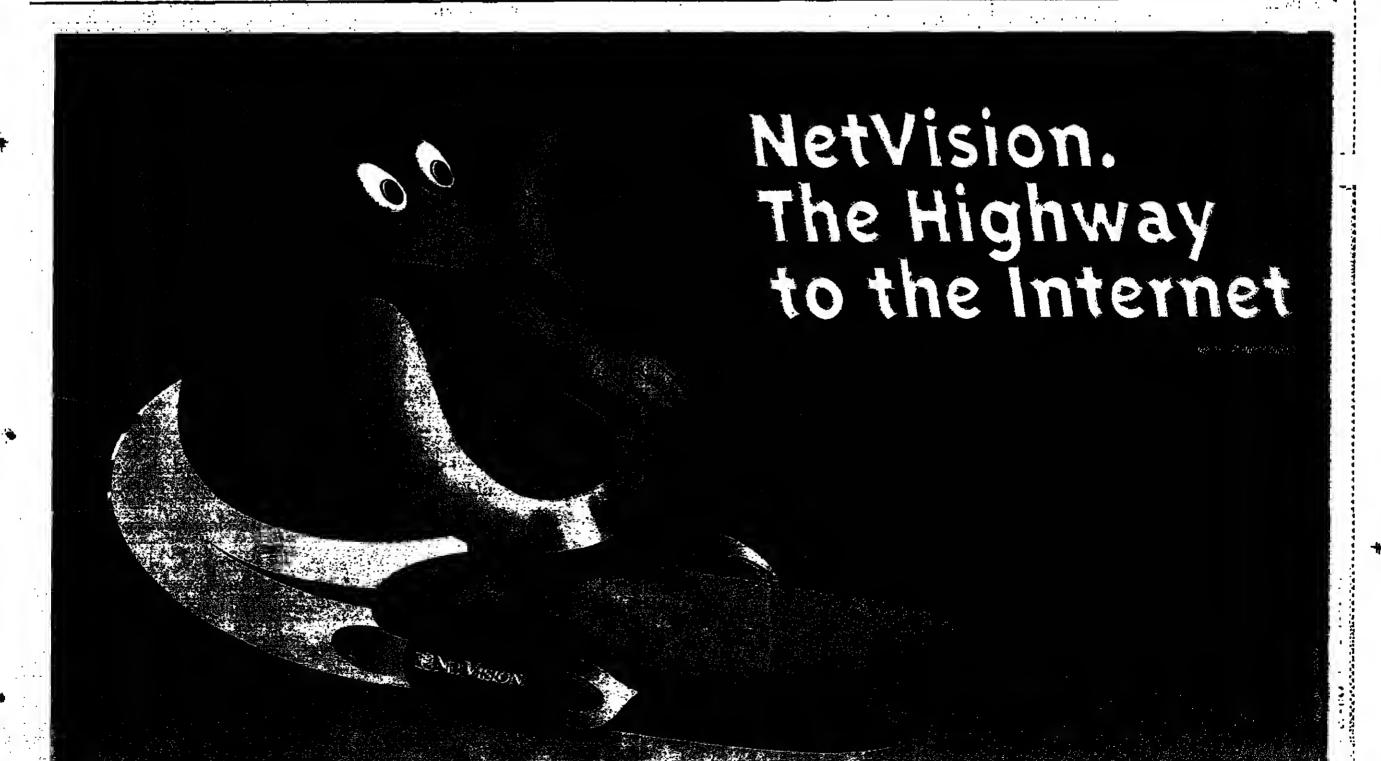
At the end of their meeting, represcotatives from the United States, France, Lebanon, Israel, and Syria issued a statement, saying the group "expressed its regret" at the casualties.

The group considered that Israel and those cooperating with it are responsible for the manner in which their explosive devices are utilized," said the statement.

It reiterated a call for "all necessary measures" in future to avoid

incidents that could hurt civilians "in areas where they may pass in the course of their normal activi-

On the other complaint over the expulsion of Lebanese-American Nabil Baydoun, 44, from Detroit, the monitoring group deferred the matter for discussion through diplomatic channels, "with a view to reaching a diplomatic solution."



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# AIDS patients demand life-saving drugs Poll: Tobacco tax could

Ten AIDS patients yesterday petitioned the Tel Aviv District Labor Court for an injunction against the government and health funds, demanding they supply the anti-AIDS "cocktail" of drugs that can keep them

The petitioners' lawyer, Oma Lynn, said all the health funds have gradually reduced the multiple-drug treatments due to budgetary constraints of the National Health Insurance Law.

The petition stated that if the proper drug treatment is not restored, this amounts to a death sentence for such patients, carried out through further suffering brought on hy additional dis-

The cabinet on Sunday is to Health Minister Yehoshua Matza's request that the Treasury allocate NIS 150 million to supply those drugs and others not included in the basket of health services. Foreign Minister David Levy yesterday issued a statement in support of the cabinet discussion, and Absorption Minister Edelstein made a similar statement on Israel Radio.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman said yesterday that if Matza wants to add medicines to the basket of health services, he must find an alternative source of funds, according to spokesman Esti Applebaum.

The problem for Neeman in granting extra funding is that the state budget will not remain with-

of gross domestic product, she said. If the Health Ministry

in the government target of 2.4% replaces non-medical expendi- said. tures with increased spending on

On Monday evening, Neeman medicines then this is fine, she is scheduled to meet coalition

### Teenage cancer patient challenges the system

BY HERB KEINON

A 17-year old Ramat Gan girl who is suffering from leukemia has overnight put a very human face on a dry budgetary issue that threatens to take vital drugs away from cancer, AIDS, and schizophrenia patients.

Before Tal Levy and 11 other children and youth suffering from cancer met with President Ezer and Reuma Weizman on Tuesday, the

issue over the drugs - whether the state should continue to fund them and where the money would come from was low down on the public agenda. Levy thrust it to the top by her simple, dignified appeal to the president.

"I say to Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and those who take medica-

tion away from us because of money, that it is heartless. I am afraid to die," she said in a widely broadcast meeting. "How can people be so closed and look at budget books when sick children are fighting Tal Levy (Is for their lives? I am not at fault that this happened to me," said Levy, an 11th grader who fell ill some four months ago.

At issue are some NIS 150 million needed to fund the drugs, which cost hundreds and even thousands of dollars per dose. The Health Ministry says that without a special allocation, it cannot fund the medication, while the Treasury says that the health funds should cut other expens-

es to fund the drugs.

And in the middle of this hureaucratic wrangle are patients like Levy, who last week were told that their drugs would be cut off because of huge deficits in their health fund.

"I think it is heartless to threaten people who are the weakest - cancer patients, and mothers of small children who are struggling with them over a hudgetary issue," Levy said last night from

her hospital bed at the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva.

Levy, who has become the symbol of this new struggle, said it is "unfortunate" that a struggle for the drugs is even necessary. "We shouldn't have to fight for this," she said. "This is something we should get as a given. What are we asking for but the bare minimum - the thing that allows us to live." Levy said she realizes cancer patients in need of the drug are being used by the Health Ministry to apply pressure on the Treasury. "Of course they are

using us, they themselves know they are using us," she said. "They are taking the most difficult cases, and - through us -

It is not positive that the Health Minister chose us to threaten and get what he wants," Levy said. "We are in the middle; we are the ball. Why do we get treated like this? Haven't we gone through enough already?"

members to try to persuade them to support the 1998 state budget. which includes an NIS 2.3b. cut in public spending.

ket of health services ensured by the results of an as-yet-unpubthe National Health Insurance lished survey by the Adanim Law. Institute for the occupational

health services.

trying to chip away at the health for health costs themselves, leavservices by legislation.

"If our petition fails and the Amos Hausner, legal adviser to court does not rule this legislation the Public Forum for the highly unreasonable, if we fail in our banle against the government's cuts and decrees which threaten the health of most people. the Histadrut will demand the employers finance all the differences in the health tax," Peretz Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy

basket of health services "the Africa and the Far East. defranding of nearly terminal El Al and Arkia had long opposed patients and the lowest kind of one-sided rules that would prohibit

Fully 83 percent of the general public - and 60% of smokers -Meanwhile, the Histadrut yes- would prefer that extra budget for terday petitioned the High Court the health system be supplied by of Justice against the govern- raising tobacco taxes rather than ment's attempts to reduce the having health funds charge. health budget and reduce the bas- patients more. These were among

At the opening of the Hope health unit of the Health Ministry. Conference on reducing socioe- The survey, conducted among a conomic gaps in Tel Aviv's representative sample of 502 Hatikva Quarter yesterday, Israelis over the age of 18, found Histadrut leaders also hlasted the that only 10% of the general pubgovernment for trying to deprive lic prefers allowing fees for health lower-income families of vital services to be increased, while the figure was double that among Histadrut Chairman Amir smokers. Surprisingly, most of the Peretz accused the government of smokers were willing to pay extra

ing non-smokers alone.

pay for health costs Prevention of Smoking, said yes-terday that since such a policy would be well accepted by the public, he would "like to know why tobacco taxes aren't being raised" to help cover deficits in the health system. He noted that Britain, Denmark, and Ireland charge \$4 for a pack of cigarettes, including high taxes, while in Israel, local brands go for \$1.70 or lower and imports for \$2.50 to \$3

European countries hiked taxes without fearing it would encourage tobacco smuggling, he said. Higher tobacco taxes have the added benefit of reducing the number of smokers, and especially of deterring young people from starting the habit.

A Treasury spokesman, however, said that every time the Treasury hikes tobacco taxes, "smuggling increases and revenue from tobacco declines."

## **Smoke-free flights**

has announced that by April 1, Meretz MK Dedi Zucker last most incoming and outgoing night told a Tel Aviv rally against flights will be completely smoke the government's economic poli- free. Levy said he had won the cy that "in order to be healthy acceptance of El Al and Arkia, you have to be rich." along with most foreign airlines He called the government's operating here, to bar smoking on failure to approve drugs for all flights up to five hours long.

AIDS, cancer, and diabetes in the These venues would not include

smoking only on their flights, fear ing that smokers would prefer its foreign competitors.

Levy said that israel would also join the international agreement that bars smoking on all direct flights to and from North America and Canada starting April 1. Israel is the fourth country to join this

The only foreign companies operating here that have so far not volunteered to prohibit smoking are KLM (Holland), Iberia (Spain), and Tarom (Romania).

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leader

## Prime minister slams article on Sara as 'evil'

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

Once again, an unflattering media spotlight has been focused on Sara Netanyahu, in anticipation of today's nine-page expose on her by Yediot Aharonot. The article relates a long list of

anecdotes of bumiliations suffered hy state employees at the hands of the prime minister's wife; unprecedented demands she made at taxpayers expense, such as personal offices near those of her husband, two secretaries and a media adviser, fits of temper in public settings and at home, releatless jealousy of women working with of the couple's privacy. Many her husband, and requesting and callers pointed out that Leah Rabin receiving gifts beyond what is had been similarly vilified when legally permitted to public figures. Prime Minister Binyamin ı, amvıng Beit Hahayal in Tel Aviv, for an event at which scholarships in honor of his late brother Youi were awarded, said: "Over the past year and a half, my wife and I, and

He said that this latest article represented a new degree of "loathsomeness and cvil" that 'violated all boundaries."

even our children, have been sub-

ject to humiliations and insults

that are unprecedented in the his-

He then hustled his wife off to the event. Sara Netanyahu refused

Two of the sources of the article stepped forward yesterday to confirm the accuracy of the stories in which they figured. One, Naomi Igus, who was Sara Netanyahu's secretary until she was fired two weeks ago, told Channel 2 that the issues explored in the story were not pointless gossip. She said that Netanyahu's behavior, and the efforts of the Prime Minister's Office staffers to conceal it from the public, were issues "for the

state comptroller to investigate." A veteran housekeeper at the

prime minister's residence, Rachel Ya'acov, 60, confirmed that Netanyahu shouted at her and threw shoes at her after she had polished and stored the shoes incorrectly.

"If the prime minister saw what you did to his shoes, he would slaughter yon!" Netanyahu reportedly cried. The airwayes were abuzz yester-

day with reactions to the article. Numerous callers to radio talk shows defended Netanyahu, and said that the article was the continuation of a media vendetta against the prime minister and a violation her husband was prime minister.

However, far from expressing iny with Netanyanu ioi ing the media assault, Leah Rabin. widow of the slain Yitzhak Rabin, joined the chorus of criticism, calling Netanyahn's behavior as beyond the accepted norms." Political figures largely remained silent. Labor MK Ephraim Oshaya proposed that the job of the prime minister's wife be

given official status with a defined list of privileges and limitations. "That way we can avoid such scandals," he said.

MK Ophir Pines (Labor) plans to submit an urgent motion to the Knesset agenda which says. "The effect of Mrs. Netanyahu's extraordinary behavior on husband's functioning should be checked."

The Prime Minister's Office issued a strongly-worded reaction that ran alongside the Yediot artidenying several of its charges, calling the story "unfair" and expressing regret that "the wave of demonization and personal attacks directed at the prime minister's wife had reached such proportions.

"Any person interested in getting revenge against Mrs. frustration, can do this with full knowledge that their claims will get wide coverage in the media. In this way, any public figure becomes a bostage to anyone who has ever worked with them or was connected to them in any way." Liat Collins contributed to this



Dr. Svjeilan Berkovic (second from left), the first Croatian ambassador here, reviews an honor guard in Jerusalem yesterday, before presenting his credentials to President Exer Weizman. At left is the Foreign Ministry's chief of protocol, Sammy Tevet. (Saac Harm)

## 'That's Mrs. Netanyahu to you'

The following are summaries from the Yediot Aharonot piece on Sara Netanyahu. The majority of the items are not attributed to

 Sara Netanyahu takes whatever gifts she was able. Troubled by the fact that security considerations prevented accepting a bottle of wine, she suggested that her staffers taste the wine to make sure it wasn't poisoned.

· She insisted on getting a two-room office suite within the Prime Minister's Office with two secretaries - who are not officially sup-posed to fill such a job - despite the fact that she rarely sits in the office. Instead she peppers her secretaries with

household errands, clipping and saving any mention of her in the press, and keeping track

of her husband's schedule and making sure that she is included in as many events as possible. She insists that she be called "Mrs. Netanyahn" and not "Sara" hy subordinates,

even by those with whom she works closely (The article is entitled, "That's Mrs. Netanyahu · Although she sits as the chairwoman of

"Hand in Hand," an organization that helps disadvantaged children, and demanded a similarly huxurious suite, she rarely takes part in the organization's day-to-day activities, and ber days, in addition to caring for her children, are largely taken up with personal appointments, such as her daily visit by her hairdresser, and regular visits from her personal trainer and tailor. Her main interest in the organization is the

opportunity to sponsor glittering evening char-

She is exceedingly suspicious of any contact her husband has with women, professional or otherwise, and became furious in the course of a television program, when singer Ofra Haza patted her husband.

When the prime minister tried to calm her, Netanyahu cried, "Leave me alone or I'll complain to the police that you are beating me.'

· She has alienated not only old friends of the prime minister, but his daughter by his first marriage as well. Two years ago, she asked his daughter, Noa, not to call him "Dad" in front of her sons, because "they don't know they have

## South America - Peru, Argentina, Brazil (including the Carnival) Departure: February 8, 1998, 23 days. Guide: Shai Yogev India and Nepal - including Cochin Jewish community Departure, February 8, 1998, 19 days China, Thailand and Hong Kong - in February, March, May, July, August, October 1998 Registration now underway for trips to Alaska & Canada in July and August 1998 & trips to Australia and New Zealand December 1998. Trips are conducted in both Hebrew and English

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TODAY, December 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. ZOA House, Rehov Daniel Frisch, off Ibn Gabirol, Tel Aviv.

# Taxi drivers block TA streets

By HAIM SHAPIRO

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STIME OF STATE STATE

- Komas

Dozens of taxi drivers blocked traffic in Tel Aviv yesterday morning to protest Transport Ministry plans to issue unlimited numbers of taxi permiss, but Yossi, who for the past nine years has rented a taxi permit from its owner, was oot among them.

The taxi drivers blocked major intersections leading into the city, tying up traffic on Derech Namir, Rehov Ibn-Gvirol, and Rehov Hamasger. Other taxis formed a cavalcade, interfering with traffic from Petah Tikva into the city. Later they gathered at the Histadrut headquarters oo Rehov Arlosoroff, stopping traf-fic in both directions. The police gave out tickets and confiscated drivers' licenses.

However Yossi, who said he was afraid to give his real name for fear that other drivers would sabotage his car, said that the Transport Ministry is moving in the right directioo, eveo if he has some criticism about the way it is going about it. Yossi owns his own taxi, pays all the fees and taxes, but he also pays \$600 a month to "rent" a taxi permit.

He must pay the \$600 in advance, every month, whether he works or oot. If he is sick or wants to take a vacation, he must find another driver to take over for him. He has been renting a permit for the past nine years, he says. In all other ways, he is a taxi driver. He has the special taxi driver's license, obtained after taking a special driving course and passing a special test.

Three months ago, the ministry allocated 2,500 permits in a lot-tery, for NIS 100,000 apiece. He



More than 5,000 taxis block a main road in Tel Aviv yesterday, as protests against the government's plan to issue more taxi licenses continued.

would have jumped at the for NIS 195,000, with a reduced chance, but he didn't win, he

"As it is, I pay our \$7,200 a year, not including taxes or depreciatioo on my car," he said. Now the ministry is selling permits to anyone who wants one,

price of NIS 130,000 for drivers with at least four years of experi-

In reaction to the taxi drivers' action, Transport Ministry Director-General Nahu m Langental said that the Taxi

Drivers Association had agreed to the move, then internal squabhles caused it to hacktrack. Langental said that the system would end the virtual servitude of hired taxi drivers. For the first time, he said, they would he able

That's good, Yossi said, but he is concerned that oon-drivers can still buy permits and rent them out. If the ministry really wanted to clean up the industry, he said, it would sell the permits only to drivers, and allow them to pay in

### Hadassah D-G Penchas plans to step down

By JUDY SIEGEL

Prof. Shmuel Penchas, the powfor the past 17 years,

has told its board of directors that he will not stand for another term when this one ends in 14 months. Its executive committee will sooo establish a search committee for another doctor to fill the coveted post.

Numerous HMO administrators and physicians Shmuel Penchas inside Hadassah's two

university hospitals will undoubtedly vie for the director-general's position, as well as outsiders from other hospitals. One natural candidate, according to insiders, is Dr. Avi Yisraeli, currently Penchas's

Penchas was born in Bucharest in 1939, and his family came here the following year. He not only has a medical degree from the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School and specialized in

After three years of disputes

within Israel's Druse community

over who should serve as its spiri-

tual head, the factions yesterday

signed an agreement wherehy

Muwafak Tarif, grandson of the late Druse leader Sheikh Amin

Tarif, would hold the post for five

The community celebrated the

agreement with festivities at al-

Kadir, near Acre, the site which

they consider to be the resting

place of the prophet Elijah.

According to the agreement, the

internal medicine, but also earned a diploma in electrical engineering at the Technico, studied ergonomerful director-geoeral of the ics and mechanical eogineering at Hadassah Medical Organization London University, and was board

certified in medical administration by the Health Ministry. Penchas was a member of many professionalbodies, including the

Netanyahu State Judicial Commission of Inquiry into the health system, whose recommendations nitimately brought about the National Health Insurance Law.

Board of directors chairman Aharon Fogel sent a letter to hospital staffers oo Wednesday, informing them of Penchas's decision and noting that the ootgoing director-general "intends to continue as a Hadassah

staffer." HMO, which is currently implementing a painful recovery program, has begun preparing a longterm strategic plan with the help of the board, external advisers and senior Hadassah staffers.

Council is to be augmented by

another 15 members, all part of the faction which had opposed

Tarif, headed by former Likud

In addition, there is to be a 10-

member council to administer the

Druse holy places, al-Kadir and

Ncbi Shueb, the tomb of Jethro,

father-in-law of Moses. The mem-

bers of this council are to be divid-

ed equally between the two fac-

Finally, both sides are to cancel

the many legal proceedings started

and police complaints lodged

against their opponents during the

tions, with Tarif as its head.

MK Assad Assad

three-year dispute.

Druse agree on spiritual

leader – after 3 years

## School trips routinely in violation of new regulations

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Nighttime rappeling and outings without armed guards or medics were just a few of the violations of school trip procedures discovered by Education Ministry inspectors during October and November, despite stricter rules adapted after the Naharayim tragedy in March, in which seven Beit Shemesh schoolgirls were killed by a Jordanian soldier during an outing.

According to the Education Ministry spokeswoman, the new Trips Authority, established following the findings of the Pressler Commission and an internal ministry investigation ioto the Naharayim affair and school trip procedures in general, ran a check on 650 school trips that took place

during October and November. Out of these, some 35-40 of the

trips were found to have violated standing regulations regarding such outings. In another case, the pupils engaged in rappeliog at night, which is forbidden. In several cases, the inspectors halted the trips on the spot and sent the pupils home. Letters were sent to the district supervisors of the schools responsible for the violations, and disciplinary action is expected to be taken against the principals.

Meanwhile, the Educatioo Ministry is reportedly considering cancelling its fuoding of those youth movements who participate in a scheduled bicycle trip to Jordan during Hanukka vacation.

Meanwhile, the Secondary School Teachers Association annouoced yesterday that they will renew sanctions as of next Wednesday if no agreement is reached by then on payment for teachers accompanying school trips and on principals' salaries. The sanctions include refusing

to accompany school trips. They will also not permit social and cultural activities to take place within the schools beyond normal school hours.

Knesset Education Committee Chairman MK Emanuel Zissmann said earlier this week that the Finance Ministry would be to blame if the teachers renew the sanctions.

The teachers had called off the sanctions last month for three weeks at the committee's request. However, they rejected the Finance Ministry's suggestion to pay them NIS 106 per day spent accompanying pupils on school trips. The teachers are seeking an hourly wage for this work, and are supported in their demands by the Knesset Educatioo Committee.

## Greenpeace: Israel must cut

#### Regional authorities demand NIS 40m.

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Regional authority leaders are threatening to halt the husing of pupils to school if the Education Ministry does not transfer money earmarked for this purpose to them.

Shmuel chairman of the Union Regiona! Authorities, said yesterday he does not understand why NIS 40 million, which he said the Knesset Finance Committee bad approved for transfer to the Education Ministry

October and November,

had not yet been passed on to the authorities. The ministry unilaterally stopped transferring funds for busing at beginning of October, leading to threats by the authorities to strike the regional schools. The strike

was averted when an

agreement was reached

10 transfer the funds.

Education An Ministry spokeswoman said the Finance Committee had not completed procedures to transfer the money to the ministry, but that the matter should be cleared up "in a matter to pay for husing in of days.

# CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

By LIAT COLLINS

Members of Greenpeace here are calling on Israel to voluotarily adopt tougher standards on carbon dioxide emissions, although the Kyoto Accord on global warming signed yesterday does not oblige it to do so.

industrially requires developed countries to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions but does not apply to developing countries. "It is ridiculous that Israel is oot considered an industrial country under this agreement," said Ofer Ben-Dov of Greenpeace's Mediterranean

Office. "We call oo Israel of its own free will to adopt the requirement of European Unioo countries to reduce CO2 emissions by eight per-cent by 2010."

Yitzhak Goren, the Environment Ministry's representative at the conference, said he was "satisfied with the agreement."

"It was not the best that could have been achieved," he said, "but it's a breakthrough and leads the way for tougher standards in the future." He said he also believes Israel should try to reduce emissions, but did not give a suggested

in brief

#### Tiberias yeshiva wins battle with neighbor

Kochava Dehan, who found herself involved in a conflict with a yeshiva which was established next door to her Tiberias home, said yesterday that she has decided to sell the house after police and municipal officials made clear to her that they did not intend to protect her.

Dehan's home was firebombed on Tuesday night. Earlier, the

Dehan's home was firebombed on Tuesday night. Eartier, the family car had been torched, causing their heating fuel tank to explode. Before that, a student at the yeshiva had smashed a glass of coffee into her husband's face.

Yesterday, she said, the mayor, the deputy mayor, and the local police chief told her that the yeshiva, which occupies a municipally-owned building, would oot be moved. They told her, she said, that she would have to decide how to get along.

Haim Shapiro

#### Trial opens of suspects in attempted murder

The trial of the three men suspected of trying to morder gangland figure Manny Aslan in Tel Aviv in September opened yesterday in Tel Aviv District Court. Nahman Cohen, Ben Suthi, and Sharon Kane are also charged with soliciting a murder, conspiracy to commit a crime, and illegal weapons'

The murder was foiled when police arrested two hit men -Sharon Makaitan and his relative, a minor, waiting near Aslan's restaurant in the Hatikva neighborhood.

Police suspect that all those involved were involved with Ze'ev Rosenstein, a foe of the Aslan family, but they have not been able to gather enough evidence to indict him.

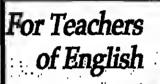
#### Wilk takes over police next week

Former Jerusalem district commander Yehuda Wilk will return to the force next week to take over as inspector-general from Assaf Hefetz. Wilk said yesterday that he plans to take immediate steps to combat the scourge of car thefts. Most of the stolen cars are believed to end up in areas under the control of the Palestinian Authority.

Israel has submitted 10 more extradition requests to the PA for criminal suspects, including those wanted for car theft, the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday. The PA has so far refused to hand over any of the suspects. An additional 34 extradition requests for terror suspects have also been ignored. Jerusalem Post Staff

#### Court orders gov't to explain lack of tender

The High Court of Justice yesterday ordered the government and Education Minister Zevulun Hammer to explain within 30 days why the decision not to issue a tender for the post of head of Edocational Televisioo has oot been cancelled. The court was acting on a petitioo by MK Avraham Poraz





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# Blair, Adams hold historic meeting

LONDON (Reuters) - Gerry Adams and other Sinn Fein leaders emerged from historic talks with Prime Minister Tony Blair vesterday saying they were hopeful the peace process in Northern Ireland could make progress.

Adams arrived yesterday for historic talks at Prime Minister Tony Blair's residence saying be wanted to forge new ties between Britain and Ireland.

"I think if people reflect on the role of Britain in our affairs over the centuries until now, they will conclude that it has been marked by great grief - and pain sometimes here on this island as well... We want to see it ending," Adams told reporters.

Noisy protesters outnumbered Sinn Fein supporters as Adams arrived 15 minutes early for the talks — the first Irish Catholic republican leader for 76 years to cross the threshold of 10, Downing Street.

"We are trying to develop a new era and a new relationship and we are very conscious that an awful lot of people are depending upon us to play our role... in building new ties between the people of Britain and Ireland," he said.

Blair said earlier he was under no illusions about Sinn Fein, the banned Irish Republican Army's political wing, but was willing to meet its leaders for the sake of peace in Northern Ireland.

"He is prepared to take risks for peace and he believes the prospects are better than they bave been for a generation," Blair's official spokesman told reporters.

The symbolically important meeting is a reward for a five-

month-old truce by IRA guerrillas that has won Sinn Fein a seat st political talks on the future of Northern Ireland, riven by violence for much of the last 30

Leaders of Northern Ireland's Protestant majority, who fear the government may cave in to republican demands for a united Ireland and an end to British rule of the north, condemned the meeting as

Blair's spokesman said the prime minister would tell his critics he had a duty to try to bring stability to Northern Ireland, just as he would with any part of the United Kingdom that had been rocked by vinlence.

"The prime minister is under no illusions about the nature of Sinn Fein but they are in the talks... Mr Adams and his colleagues will be treated in the same way as other parties in the talks," the spokesman said.

Although Adams had to make dn without a doorstep handshake with Blair, who was careful not to hand Adams a propaganda coup, the meeting is likely to lend new legitimacy to a mnvement linked to republican guerrillas who twice tried to kill British premiers.

One of the attacks was at 10, Downing Street itself. Then prime minister John Major

and his ministers - sitting in the same cabinet room where Blair was receiving Adams — escaped unscathed when the IRA fired mortar bombs at the house in

Northern Ireland is enjoying a fragile peace after more than a quarter century of sectarian conflict that claimed 3,200 lives.



Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams outside 10 Downing Street yesterday before his meeting with British Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Adams earlier stressed the talks would not provide a ready-made formula to cement the peace but said he would press Blair for assurances that all parties would focus on future prospects rather

than past animosities. For his part, Blair intended to warn Sinn Fein that it would be thrown out of the all-party talks taking place in Belfast if the IRA

But his spokesman said he would also explain that, given goodwill on all sides, it was realistic to believe a political settlement could be reached by the deadline he has set of next May.

Iran, which has long decried the

peace process as unjust to

Palestinians. It also reflected Arab

and Moslem frustration at what is

seen as Washington's inability or

unwillingness in change Israel's

Leaders of the 55-member

Organization tif the Islamic Conference (OIC) declared their

resolve and determination to

regain the Holy City of Al-Quds

[Jerusalem] and al-Aqsa mosque

and to restore the inalienable

national rights of the Palestinian

were marred by wrangling over the

venue of the next summit, the need

for a foreign ministers' meeting in

March and the wording of a refer-

ence to Iran's hard-line supreme

Iranian President Mohammed

Khatami, the undisputed star of the

three-day summit, said in a closing address issued to the media he was

delighted that "significant resolu-

tions decisively condemning the Zionist regime for its policies were

adopted."
The declaration condemned terrorism, while distinguishing ter-

rorism from the struggle of peoples

against colonial or alien domination

It said the killing of innocents was forbidden in Islam" and urged the

international community to "deny

asylum to terrorists, assist in bring-

ing them to justice" and take action

to dismantle support networks for

Egypt has accused Britain and Afghanistan of sheltering Moslem

Iran, using the summit to prove the failure of US attempts to isolate

it, kept up its drive to mend fences with former Arab foes. Khatami beld a 25-minute meet-

ing with Iraqi Deputy President

Taha Yassin Ramadan, in the highest-level contact since the 1980-88

Khatami ditched protocol by

visiting Saudi Arabia's Crown

Prince Abdullah in his conference

chambers, in another sign of a

thaw between Shi'ite Moslem Iran

and the Sunni Moslem monarchy.

It was their second private meet-

ing during the summit.
The summit urged Moslem states to sever military ties with

Israel and respect Iraq's territorial integrity. Twn Turkish-sponsored

resolutions on Syria's alleged sup-

port for rebels and Greece's treat-

ment of its Turkish minority were

Iran-Iraq war.

militants sentenced by its courts.

or foreign occupation,"

leader, Avatollah Ali Khamenei. The disputes delayed the closing ceremony by more than four hours.

But the conference's final hours

We deeply mourn the passing of our dearly beloved mother and grandmother

#### **RUTH POTASH**

We shall carry her memory always in our hearts.

Her daughters Nina and Vivienne Her sons-In-law and grandchildren

The funeral will take place today, Friday, December 12, 1997 at 11:30 a.m. at the Vatikim Cemetery, Netanya.

We deeply mourn the passing of our sister

#### **RUTH POTASH**

David Bear and family **Dora Sachs and family** 

We shall cherish her memory always.

We mourn the passing of

#### **RUTH POTASH**

Dorothy and issy isacowitz and family Shollie and Rose Isacowitz and family We remain with cherished memories.

To Sharon Hess Schwabe

Sincere condolences on the death of your

#### **Father**

Your friends at **Goldfine & Partners** 



Bar-Ilan University

mourns the passing of

#### HANNAH MINTZ:

of London and Herzliva Beloved Mother of Gloria, Valerie and Richard Grandmother and Great-grandmother

Together with her late husband, Louis, Hannah created a Jewish dynasty founded on love, tradition and tolerance

May you be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM mourns the passing of

#### **Prof. YOASH VAADIA**

former Vice President and Director General of the University and Professor Emeritus of Plant Physiology

The funeral will be held on Sunday, December 14, 1997. The casket will be placed at 12.30 p.m. in the plaza of the Sherman Administration Building on the Givat Ram campus. Funeral services will begin at 1 p.m. The procession to the cemetery on the Mount of Olives

(the Sephardi Community Section) will depart at 1.30 p.m.

#### Islamic Conference slams Israe The nmission was a nod to host

By ASHRAF FOUAD

TEHERAN (Reuters) - Moslem leaders blasted Israel at an Islamic summit that ended yesterday and condemned terrorism in the name

But their Teheran Declaration, which denounced Israel for its "expansionist policies" and "state terrorism," made no mention of the Middle. East peace process.

The stone setting for

#### MANFRED MOISE 5"

will take place on Thursday, December 18,1997 (19 Kislev 5758) at 3 p.m. at Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem (Har Tamir, Section 36).

We will meet at the main car park at 2:45 p.m.

The Family

#### Alexandra

sadly announces that her mother

## **NAOMI TEASDALE**

passed away peacefully at home.

The funeral will take place today at 2 p.m. at the Kibbutz Nachshon Cemetery

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of

## **IRVING BERNSTEIN**

Former Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal Devoted messenger for Israel and the well-being of Jews worldwide

He will be sorely missed by all his lifelong friends and colleagues in Israel

> M T W The United Israel Office

We join with Clal Yisrael in mourning the death of

## **IRVING BERNSTEIN**

a lifelong devoted servant of the Jewish people and member of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors.

May his family be comforted among the mourners of Zion.

Charles Goodman Chairman **JAFI Board of Governors** 

Avraham Burg Chairman **JAFI Executive** 

Shoshana Cardin Chairman United Israel Appeal Inc.

## Land without a people

Column One

Thomas O'Dwyer

to own land, he wouldn't have invented white men.

"Down under" is the jocular name for Australia. Recently it

has applied equally well to the level tif political debate in the country - and to the standing of its conservative govemment

Australia is the New World we all love to love. After America, it became the last new frontier. Despite the sophistication of beautiful Sydney, it still retains the image of a vast wilderness

being tamed by rugged hard-working hardliving individualists.

Twenty-five years ago, on my first visit there, a group of us used to drive to the outskirts of Darwin - the tropical town on the northwest coast - to take photographs of the only signpost in the area. One arm said "Darwin - 1 mile," the other said "Alice Springs -950." The recent excellent movie Priscilla. Queen of the Desert, about the adventures of a campy gay theater troupe in the outback, showed an Australia where attitudes appeared to bave changed drastically, but the landscape remains master.

Blind roosters

If you were an Aboriginal, the preceding few paragraphs would have made you very angry. It's a white man's romantic view of his occupied land - a land where nature should be everything and man nothing but an awe-filled guest of the gods for the short span between the dream time of non-existence and the dream time of hereafter.

Who owns that land has again become the center of an angry and racist debate that has rattled the government of John Howard. The sins of colonialism against the native people are still coming back to roost.

The injustice may have been blind at the time, but now a demand for justice is forcing everyone to upen their eyes. Most Australians would rather nut see at what price their comfortable way of life has

There is no such debate in lasmania – mere they solved the "problem" at the outset by systematically exterminating the entire native population until the island was "abbofree." But Australians in general resent outsiders sticking their noses into Aussic business, almost as much as the Aboriginals resent the ram-

pages of the white man. A couple of weeks ago, Hugh Kerr, a British member of the European parliament, lambasted Australia over its treatment of the Aboriginals.

He ended up at the losing end of the very sharp tongue of Australia's deputy prime min-ister Tim Fischer, who said: "I will listen to the Europeans when the Sami have a right to claim three-quarters of

If God intended Aboriginals Scandinavia, and the gypsies own land, he wouldn't have three-quarters of France, Czechoslovakia or Hungary."

> History as a sweater Here we have one

of those endless circular debates on who was where first. This

is a ludicrous which debate descrives an academic thesis entitled "History as a Sweater," so we can decide which is the best thread to pull to unravel the entire garment - maybe all the way back to the

very first 500 humans the scientists now tell us walked out of Africa 140,000

years ago to start it all. John Howard is merely the latest at this end of the evolutionary chain to put his foot in it. Early this month he threatened to have parliament dissolved and call a general election if he could not get agreement for a law to "protect outback farmers from Aboriginal land claims."

The Senate struck down the bill, but the race cat was out of the bag.

The politicians managed to dress the Aboriginals in war paint and portray them as massing on the hilltops in their millions to sweep down on the wives and daughters of honest farmers and miners. Once again, victims (1.5 percent of the population) have somehow transmuted into a national threat, "We don't intend to be morally intimidated," said Howard, in one of those double-edged idiocies such confrontations engender.

Pastoral sympathy

The dispute is an old one, of course, but until modern times the Aboriginals had no way tif fighting by the white man's rules and courts and had no white liberal allies to teach them. Last December the High Court had to make a ruling on. the status of so-called pastoral leases. These were first granted in the 1880s to allow white farmers to settle on vast farms as big as Belgium. These were ancestral lands of the Aboriginals. Naturally, they

were not consulted. The legal concept of "native land arose only five years ago, allowing Aboriginals to file claims. Another court ruling then said native title and pastoral leases could coexist on the same land. It said the pastoral leases would prevail in a dis-pute – but the ruling still threw farmers into a panic and they began lobbying for the aboli-

tion of the native titles. The legal fiction on the books until now has been that Australia was an "empty land" when Europeans first began settling there in 1788 - so no one could possibly have any title. Australia was the original land without any people waiting for people without land. according to the white man's law. It was, in reality, the Aboriginal land. But who wanted to deal with that one!

## **Kyoto reaches** gas-emission pact

**CLIMATE SUMMIT** 

KYOTO (Reuters) - The world's first treaty to reduce greenhouse gases finally emerged yesterday after marathon talks, in a deal praised by nearly all but clearly loved by few.

The treaty mandates an average cut of 5.2 percent in the emissions blamed for a warming of the

planet that could eventually prove to be environmentally disastrous.

for global warming.

Reaction was generally The treaty, reached after 11 days of non-stop talks, survived a China-US tussic and a near-breakdown. amid chaos in the last 24 hours.

US Vice President Al Gore, whose lightning visit on Monday helped restart the mired negotiations, said the treaty marked a "vital turning point" in the global

warming fight.
No nation claimed victory and none ended up completely happy with targets or obligations set for

It was as true for tiny islands threatened with extinction as for the three big players, the United States, the world's biggest polluter, the European Union, which had the most ambitious target going into the meeting, and Japan, the meeting's host.

The US ended up committed to cuts of 7%, the European Union nations 8%, and Japan 6%, from

1990 emission levels in the next

But the group of nearly 10,000 delegates, environmentalists and even business lobbyists against a treaty could rightly claim to have

been present for the first step towards legally binding cuts in such as carbon dioxide, blamed

Reaction was generally supportive, but some quarters already started questioning how the goals would be met.

Even the prime minister of the host country, Ryutaro Hashimoto, said the 6% target "is a very heavy figure for Japan.

Scientific evidence accepted by the conference warned that heating up of the earth's surface from gases trapped in the atmosphere causes more and fiercer storms, wider deserts, rising sea levels that threaten to engulf low-lying

islands and melting of polar ice. "Perhaps this day will be in the future remembered as the Day of the Atmosphere," said conference chairman Raul Estrada, Argentina's ambassador to China.
But EU Environment

Commissioner Ritt Bjerregaard is worried about the future. This is not good enough for the future."



997 The Jerusalem Pour

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#### Bitter medicine

The picture of teenage cancer patient Tal Levy lobbying the president and the Knesset for the drugs she needs reinforces the almost universal conviction in any compassionate society that no one should want for lifesaving medical treatments. The issue is not whether the health-care system should provide the critical drugs that Levy and many others need, but how society chooses to pay for its medical care.

The Finance Ministry is, of course, beside itself over the accusation that it is responsible for withholding vital drugs just to save money. The Treasury argues that the Health Ministry campaign to include 14 new drugs in the national insurance "basket" is cynically using sick children to increase its hudget. The Treasury is right that this is a typical case of a ministry claiming that the money it does not have just happens to be slated for what the public cares about most.

In this case, however, it was the Treasury that ambushed itself by steadfastly refusing to add almost any drugs to the bealth basket since the list was drawn up in June 1994. Besides creating an invitation for just the sort of irresistible pressure we are now seeing, the Treasury tactic violates the spirit of the National Health Insurance Law by not updating the basket as medical technology develops.

Of course, the Treasury says that these drugs should be paid for by trimming the fat within the health funds, not by adding to the health budget. But here the Treasury is not being entirely straight either, because it is using this issue to promote a larger agenda: the piecemeal dismanding of the National Health Insurance Law.

For both sides, the debate is not really over the 14 drugs which all agree must be provided, but the NIS 1.3 billion deficit that warns of a health system headed for collapse. The Finance Ministry is trying to tinker with the problem in the arrangements bill to be considered this month, which tries to introduce some competition in the system by allowing the health funds to adjust the health care packages they offer, The bill also encourages the establishment of

'new'private health-care companies. It seems that the Treasury is trying to break off bits of the national health-care system, in the hopes that at least part of it can be made more financially viable. But the result of this piecemeal dismemberment could be that people will

end up paying the same or more for a shrinking basket of services.

So far, the Finance Ministry believes that the political will for a fundamental overhaul of the system does not exist, so tinkering must suffice. And while proponents of the existing system act as if husting the budget targets or squeezing out some new taxes will solve the problem, they must know that throwing money at the system will not save it either.

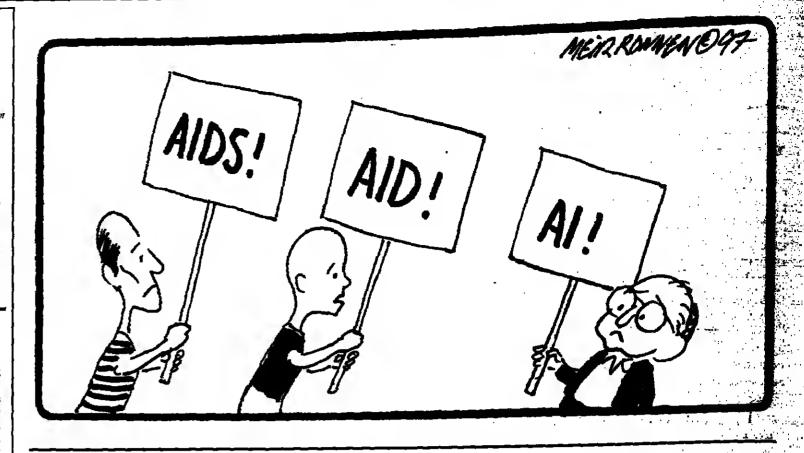
In the end, Israel will run up against the same wall that other systems of socialized medicine have crashed into: the rationing of care. England, Canada, New Zealand, and Sweden have all experienced long waiting lists for surgery. A few years ago surgeons in Canada reported that, for heart patients, the danger of dying on the waiting list exceeded the danger of dying on the operating table.

High technology also tends to get short shrift in socialized systems. In 1990, for example, Canada had only 12 magnetic resonance imagers, compared to 900 in the United States. Though Israel is now enjoying the benefits of a relatively young population and a glut of doctors, it is a matter of time before the troubles that have plagued other socialized systems surface here, too.

In the context of the flap over adding drugs to the health basket, polincians such as MK Haim Ramon accused the Treasury of striving for an American-style health system, as if that system were the height of barbarity. The fact is that no country has yet achieved the holy grail of universal coverage, top quality, and cost efficiency.

What is clear, however, is that rising health costs threaten, as some Canadian analysts described their own predicament, to "crowd out every other public spending priority - social services, the environment, education. All are being shortchanged to feed an inefficiently organized health-care system." Free market mechanisms need not be the enemy of the best possible combination of universal access and quality care; indeed only a system that utilizes. some elements of competition will be efficient enough to survive in the long run.

We cannot even begin to achieve such a system until we admit that the National Health Insurance Law is plunging us into a dead end. An overhaul that utilizes competition to fulfill society's values is not a barbaric concept, but the only way out.



## An unacceptable redeployment

The government proposals for the second redeployment, based on a "pick and choose" approach to the Oslo Accords, are thoroughly unacceptable. Their objective is to prevent the creation of a viable Palestinian state alongside Israel, and to thereby thwart any prospect of a permanent settlement. If Israet forces the Palestinians into an untenable situation, we too will suffer the consequences of the demise of the Oslo process.

Whatever lip service Binyamin Netanyahu has paid to the Oslo Accords over the past 18 months, he has completely dissipated their spirit. The Netanyahu-led negotiations lack any commitment to patience and dialogue in this arduous process, to basic human rights, or to the ultimate goal of peaceful and respectful coexistence.

Since taking office, Netanyahu government has blarantly promoted settlement activity and the confiscation of Palestinian land. His policies have contributed to the further impoverishment of the Palestinian population of the West Bank and Gaza. With this track record, it is no surprise that the current redeployment proposals ignore most aspects of the preexisting agreements and fail tu address their economic, social, and political implications for the Palestinian people, and by extension for Israel.

These proposals trample upon both the principles and the spirit

The Law for the Direct

Election of the Prime

Minister continues to occupy

a central place in our political

agenda. Although it is legitimate to

criocize the law, it appears that

more than few public figures and

academics have made it their habit

to attribute any problem that besets

our political arena to this new law.

If we are to reassess this law, we

should try to do it with at least fair

measure of objectivity and adher-

I do not believe that there was

any other law in the annals of the

knesset to which more work and

thought were devoted. Over a

period of three years, the Law

Committee held 44 special ses-

sions on the law. The public

debate was wide open. The vari-

ous Knesset factions discussed its

merits several omes. The parties

themselves carried on a heated

debate, bringing the issue to their

leading bodies. The academic

world was intensely involved, and

hundreds of articles were pub-

The law was born out of bistorical

events. Between 1984 and the

"stinking maneuver" which brought

down the unity government in March 1990, the country did not

enjoy, even for a short interval, the

The Law for the Direct Election

of the Prime Minister, together

with our proportional representa-

non, may be the most democratic

system in the world. Instead of the prime minister being appointed as

a result of negotiations between

the various parties, he is elected

directly by the electorate with a

clear majority of over 50 percent.

At the same time, each voter is

free to vote for the party of his

choice. It is the expression of the

Britain, in which the electoral sys-

tem is much less democratic, but

makes for a more effective single-

luxury of a stable government.

lished on the opinion pages.

ence to the facts.

**NAOMI CHAZAN** 

Netanyahu government has been engaged for over two weeks in negotiations with itself. Without meaningful dialogue with the Palestinians, the outcome of these discussions will be no more than yet another Israeli dictate.

The second point relates to timing. This redeployment is already long overdue. To delay its implementation until March, an addistrange conditionalities, further testing Palestinian behavior and patience. Israel cannot announce an expansion of settlements and simultaneously ask for 100 percent Palestinian compliance.

Fifth, the Oslo framework explicitly provides for the territorial integrity of the Palestinian entity. By creating noncontiguous bubbles of Palestinian autonomy,

The Netanyahu government has been engaged for over two weeks in redeployment negotiations with itself

tional four months, given that the tirst redeployment was never carried out, is inexcusable. Once commitments are made, they must be put into effect as scheduled. Recent experience has clearly shown that Israel risks far more through postponement and besitation than it stands to gain.

Third, the Oslo Accords, while not specific about the quantity of land to be transferred to the Palestinian Authority under the interim agreements, never considered the possibility of meaningless

Netanyahu's offer of six percent to eight percent of the contested territory simply will not do.

Fourth, the government decision this is a unilateral proposal. The redeployment carries with it dent upon Israeli approval?

Netanyahu's suggestions would transform the area under the PA into isolated, bantustan-like islands reminiscent of the worst policies of South Africa under apartheid\_ Many of the PA's primary duties,

foremost the development of the economic, political, and social infrastructure, would essentially depend upon the mood of the government. Palestinian people's basic needs, beginning with health, education, housing, and social welfare, would remain subject to Israeli geographic, economic, and administrative restrictions. How can any Palestinian entity, regardless of its official label, possibly coalesce if

THIS government is motivated by a stubborn dedication to attaining its own goals, however unreasonable, at the great expense of the Palestinians as buman beings. If Israeli territorial adjustments were to follow the proposal that is currently on the table, Palestinian autonomy would be nothing more than pure facade, a cruel joke on the broad-minded agreements signed in good faith four years

Redeployment and final-status: negotiations must be grounded in the principles of security and mutual trust. In the near future, a Palestinian state will stand alongside Israel, and it is in Israel's best interest to ensure that this state embodies the same values of justice, freedom, and human trignity that must guide our own. This goal can only be achieved through dialogue, mutual recognition of needs and concerns, and bilateral decisions that recognize and honor the dignity and rights of the citizens of both communities.

We know that peace is in Israel's best interest - politically, economically, and socially. Any proposed agreement that neglects the parallel interests of the Palestinians is doomed to failure. This preposterous proposal, which would barely fulfill the leiter of the Oslo Accords and falls miles short of its spirit, bas no place in the policies of any government of Israel.

deputy speaker of the Knesset.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Sir. - Amir Peretz is to be congratulated on the extent of the strike he masterminded. Ephraim Kisbon once said that the success of a strike depends on the amount of damage it can do. This week's strike certainly did a very thor-

ough damaging joh to the country's economy. I am surprised, though, that Peretz did not go even further and close down the large foodstores, and order doctors to refuse to treat even emergency cases. I have no doubt that our well-disciplined public would gladly have starved and even laid down their lives in the cause of the strike.

Some complain that the strike bas been excessively severe. But once you grant the validity of the strike there is no setting bounds to it. People need to be reminded that the strike was first introduced, about the middle of the last century, when workers (who constituted the vast majority of the population) were downtrodden and had few, if any, political rights. Today all citizens have equal political rights.

There is, therefore, no justification for the strike which is a form of organized violence, detrimental both to the economy and the moral values of the country. The moral message of the strike to the individual citizen is "If you don't get what you want, resort to violence."

If we want an economically viable state and a morally sane society, the time has come to ban the strike and to substitute binding arbitration.

Haifa.

Sir, - As a long-time admirer of Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, I urge him to resign - now, while

the resigning is good. As a devoted apolitical minister attempting to salvage a tough state hudget, he is facing the toughest, most vitriolic, political barrage conceivable in this country, with each quarter demanding more than the next. With the country's wage and tax structures as quixotic as ever, the Histadrut will never yield. Undoubtedly, a bapless Yaakov Neeman may already be cursing the day be accepted the lofty job of finance minister.

Another good reason for resigning now was his recent fiasco in accepting the invitation of the Israeli Progressive (Reform) Judaism movement to be guest of honor at their recent convention.

As chairman of the committee seeking to bridge the Orthodox-Reform fissure, Neeman had no business accepting such an invitation from either of the sides, at least until the committee's Jerusalem. tenure ends.

His controversial appearance before the convention - regardless of his message to the delegates - has not only angered the Orthodox leadership and exacerbated things, but bas also cast deep doubt on the chances of the Neeman Committee to succeed in its mission.

Those chances, slim as they now appear, may dissolve entirely unless Neeman leaves the government. And the sooner, the better for his own sake.

H. SOPHER YEHUDA FRANKEL Tiberias.

#### SAVING JUDAISM

Sir, - In rebuttal to Tsvi November's letter "Dangerous Phuralism" (November 251, I would say outright and shooting from the hip that the Reform and Conservative movements are saving Judaism in America. In my home town of Richmand, California, 20% of our Reform congregation were Gentiles, converted to Judaism.

When my daughter's teacher spent more time at Sunday school discussing baseball and batting averages, we thought it was time to look for another school. We attended a Friday night service at Temple Emanuel in San Francisco (Reform). and I was surprised. We joined and were pleased with the emphasis placed on Jewish culture and Zionism. They sent the confirmation class to Israel for seven weeks. including my son. It is the fanatic Orthodox that are causing disunity in Israel. Wouldn't it be a comfort if we followed the dictum in the Torah that we are all brothers?

BEN GALE

#### RADIO ANACHRONISM

Sir, - A committee bas been approved to seek out a suitable person to head the army radio station. It seems to me the time has come to realize that Israel is the only free country to have an army station. In these days of electronic communicarions there is no military need

whatsoever for such a station. Keeping Army Radio is at best pure anachronism and at worst an outlet for possible anti-demo-

cratic actions. ELIEZER GOLDSCHMIDT

Jerusalem

#### **URIEL LYNN**

The new system of direct elections for

prime minister has been subject to much

unwarranted criticism

The root of all evil?

serious consideration and analysis. First, the law did not alleviate the extortionist leverage enjoyed by the religious parties. In any democracy, the rights of minorities should be preserved, but we do not want them to force their will on the majority. The critics say that as result of the new law, the situation has become even worse: There are negotiations before the elections and there are nasty concessions after the elections and before the installation of the new government.

I disagree. According to the new

system each coalition agreement

made before the elections must be

made public. Thus, the public

knows the concessions made by

any candidate to his future part-

ners before it goes to the polls.

The voters cannot be misled, and

this public knowledge in itself

restrains the candidates from mak-

ing agreements that will be unac-

ceptable to the supporters of their

After the elections, the parties

who wish to join the government

ntust negotiate with one person

only. They do not have the maneu-

vering room of negotiating with two aspirants. This is a great

change. Following the elections of

1984 and 1988, it took no less

then two months to form a gov-

emment. After the elections of

1996, it took only two weeks.

itself is dissolved and general elections must be held within two months. The logic is simple: The prime minister was elected by the people and not by the Knesset, and if the Knesset feels that the situation is so serious that it merits revoking the democratic decision of the electorate, then it should be accountable.

However, the critics contend that it will be hard to find 61 MKs who will topple the government, even in case of national emergency, because they will be losing their seats. I do not believe that a

gest cancelling the proportional principle which breeds a multiparty Knesset. The trend that saw. the ascendancy of the small parties and the shrinking of the two large parties started in 1984 and continued in each election thereafter. The large parties failed to read the signs and placed their hopes on the system, rather than on truly trying to reach the voters. The direct election law may have enhanced this trend, but it did not create it.

There is, bowever, a new problem which is the direct result of the law. A politician who does not have a chance of being elected prime minister may declare his candidacy, because be knows that even the small number of votes he will receive could be crucial in the first round. In order to get him to drop his candidacy, one of the large parties may offer him several places on its Knesset list. This

may create a distortion in the division of power within n faction. This unhealthy result can be solved through legislation, as other similar problems have been in the past. I predict that the Law for the Direct Election of the Prime Minister is with us to stay. It will

be as hard to change it as it is to change our proportional representation system. Instead of wasting energy in trying to repeal the law. it would be wiser to introduce amendments and draw the right political conclusions.

The writer is a former MK who chaired the Knesset Law Committee.

#### FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On December 12, 1932, The Palestine Post reported at length on an anti-British plot in

The Polish Interior Minister had instructed the Governor of Lemberg to present a detailed report on the anti-Jewisb riots which took place in that city. Mass protests by students were held in this connection before the Polish consulate in New York

50 years ago: On December 12. 1947, The Palestine Post reported that 10 Jews were killed and four badly wounded when Arabs reported. The Hagana blew up

opened fire at a convoy traveling on the Jerusalem-Hebron road.

Six Arabs were killed and 32 injured in Haifa when Hagana attacked the Eastern quarters and blew np a house in Wadi Rushmieh which housed Arab gangs attacking Jewish transports on the bridge.

Three Arabs were killed and many more injured when the Hagana repulsed their attack on the lewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. The situation remained tense in the city where many isolated incidents were three Arab houses at Shuafat, on the road to Ramallah.

25 years ago: On December 12, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that the former kibbutznik, Ehud Adiv. 26, suspected member of an Arab-Jewish-Syrian espionage ring, was said to have admitted that he bad divulged highly classified military information to the Syrians. Seventeen alleged members of this group had been arrested.

Apollo 17 landed for man's sixth visit to the moon. Alexander Zvielli true will of the people. But being perfect in its democratic values does not necessarily makes it the best system for Israel. There are countries, like Great

party government. Democracy is only one yardstick by which any system of government should be measured. Following the last elections, the criticism levelled at the new basic law can be classified in three main

THE second criticism is that the prime minister, in reality, cannot be removed from office, even if be is a total failure and a true danger to the future of the country. Nothing could be not more misleading. After being elected, the prime minister must present his government to the Knesset and get its vote of confidence.

Any time thereafter, the Knesset, by a simple majority of 61 of its members in a vote of no confidence, can depose the prime mincategories, each of which merits ister. In such a case, the Knesset constitutional law should be enacted to fit the selfishness of elected representatives, and if such is the case, the criticism should be directed at those 61 MKs and not at the law. The third type of criticism is that

the Knesset representation of the small and mid-size parties has grown, while that of the two main parties has diminished. This is definitely a worrisome fact, but the real question is why did it happen and is it because of the direct election of the prime minister.

The direct election law did not

create our system of elections for the Knesset, it only left it intact, 1 did not hear any of the critics sug-

POSTSCRIPTS

A WOMAN who stole four packages of undershirts in West Palm Beach, Florida, was sentenced to 15 years in prison under the state's new "two strikes, you're

out" law. Under the law, offenders who commit a violent felony within three years of being released from state prison must serve the maximum penalty for the offense.

For Theresa Ann McKenzie, 33. who has been arrested at least 18 times in the past 10 years, that meant a mandatory 15 years for stealing the undershirts.

AS REAL estate offers go, this one's out of this world.

Parcels of the moon are for sale and for far less than the \$300,000 you'd likely drop elsewhere. A mere \$15.99 at the Moon Shop in Washington can get you a spa-cious 1.8 acres of virgin lunar soil with a lovely Earth-side view.

Sound like a scam? Lunar Embassy ambassador Dennis Hope, who cites the haphazard homesteading of the West as legal precedent, claims to have jumped through the right legal boops in claiming rights to the orbital body, including filing with the UN.



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### Blame Assad, not false information

GERALD M. STEINBERG

Tehuda Gil, the Mossad agent charged with fabricating intelligence information on Syria, had an accom-plice. Without President Hafez Assad's assistance, no one would have taken Gil's reported alleganions regarding Syrian plans to attack Israel seriously.

197 The Jerusalem Post

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Assad claims to have made "a strategic decision" for peace, but his words and actions point in the opposite direction. In early 1996, the Syrian leader had the opportunity to regain all of the Golan in the framework of a peace agreement with the Peres government.

Assad ciaims to have made 'a strategic decision' for peace, but his words and actions point in the opposite direction

He refused, raising serious doubts about his objectives. Although the Golan Heights

bave been quiet since the ceasefire agreement in 1974. Syria remains on a war footing and is prepared for a full-scale conflict. The crisis that led to the war scare in the fall of 1996 began when the 14th Division of the Syrian army left Beirut and took up positions near Mt. Hermon. In 1973, the Syrian surprise attack started with a belicopter-borne assault on the early-warning station near the summit. This time, no secret information was required to raise the level of concern in Israel.

The Syrians maintain a standing army of over 300,000 soldiers (twice the Israeli total), 4,600 main battle tanks, and close to 600 combat aircraft.

The numbers are increasing, and since "choosing peace," the Assad government has spent large sums on new weapons and missiles. The Syrian army holds large-scale annual exercises on the Syrian side of the Golan, including missile tests. Assad has also equipped his forces with the most deadly chemical weapons, including VX

As a result, Israeli leaders and analysts take the possibility that Syria might decide to launch a limited attack - a "quick grab" to gain a foothold in the Golan - or perhaps a wider assault very seriously. Any changes in Syrian military deployments trigger alarms and defensive preparations, "just

The transition from peace to war can be very quick, and by planting false information regarding Syrian plans, Yehnda Gil might have triggered a war. However, the instability that gave Gil this opportuni-

ty is Syria's responsibility. These military preparations for war are reinforced by the policies and public statements of the Assad regime. It is still a prominent member of the "rejectionist front." refusing to engage in direct contacts with Israelis, including academic meetings and informal discussions designed to ease tension, increase understanding, and avoid

Assad consistently condemns other Arab states for normalizing relations with Israel. In his speech before the Islamic summit in Teheran, he spoke in racist terms, while praising Iran's "support of the Arab nation and her struggle against Zionism and her resistance of Zionist greed in the land, wealth, and resources of Arabs and Moslems."

OTHER Syrian officials talk frequently and publicly about the "inevitability of war with Israel." In a recent interview published in the Arabic press, a high-level officinl boasted that "Syria is strong and can cause Israel the heaviest of losses. It does not need weapons from outside, since it manufactures its own weapons, for example 600-kilometer range missiles that are not imported."

In Lebanon, the Syrians provide direct support and military protec-tion for Hizbullah's guerrilla war against Israel. Assad has repeatedly blocked efforts to negonate an end to this conflict, and bas attempted to use the fighting in Lebanon to pressure Israel. Thus, the potential for crisis and wider regional conflict is not the result an agent provocateur's false information, but of Syrian poli-

In addition, the Assad regime's murder of thousands of Syrians in Hama in the campaign to destroy the Moslem Brotherhood in 1982, and Syria military support for the PLO's attempted coup in Jordan in 1970, have not been forgotten.

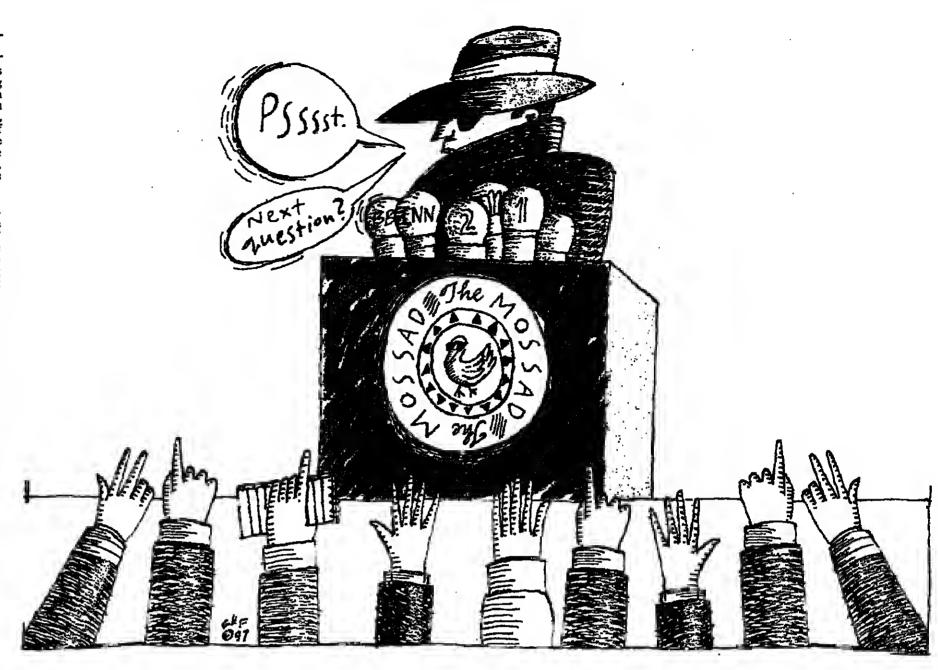
A few years ago, Syrian state television broadcast ceremonies of "celebration" in Assad's honor. In addition to the usual military displays, this celebration included women soldiers biting snakes, apparently to demonstrate their bravery. In Israel, these scenes reinforced the image of a brutal state willing to accept very high casualties for ideological goals.

In 1996, Israeli decision makers acted carefully and responsibly, discounting Gil's claims and also taking a series of clear actions to reassure the Syrians. However, there is no guarantee that future false alarms will not lead to accidental war.

Assad has consistently rejected the creation of a "hot line" between Damascus and Jerusalem. Similar systems linking the Israeli leadership with the heads of Egypt and Jordan bave proven to be valuable tools for defusing crises. In the absence of dialogue and open communication, the potential for misunderstandings, particularly in crises, will remain. None of this reduces the severity

of the charges against Yehuda Gil. His actions weakened Israeli intelligence, and under different circumstances, could have triggered a war. However, as long as Damascus remains a mystery, Assad continues to undermine normalization between Israel and the Arab world, and Syria prepares for war, the sources of instability

The writer is a professor of politi-cal studies at Bar-Ilan University and director of the Arms Control Program at the BESA Center for Strategic Studies.



# The Mossad in the media age

number of lessons can be learned from the Yebuda Gil affair, as it has unfolded thus far, regarding the longterm relationship between the Mossad and the public. Incidentally, they apply equally to the General Security Service as well, though it was not involved in

This is not the first instance of the last. There were times when corrupt practices were far more widespread, if perhaps not as obviously damaging to national

Because the public has an overidealized image of the services, it tends to react to the revelation of corruption, or, for that matter, of operational failure (e.g., the Mashaal Affair) with particular outrage and disappointment. And because we live in the media age, an aberration like the Gil affair apparently can no longer be kept in the family." It leaks.

The leakers are mostly Yehuda Gil's comrades in the intelligence family. And the damage incurred from the snowball of information names, identifying data about

sources, photographs, details on modus operandi - that is thrust upon the public merely compounds the original security damage done by Gil.

One area in which the Mossaditself can take corrective measuresis the realm of manpower recruitment and the "care and handling" of its agents. To be sure, a career in the Mossad is not something corruption in the secret services, normally considered appropriate nor, unfortunately, is it likely to be for a "nice Jewish boy (or girl)." It may involve long periods abroad, separation from family and familiar surroundings, and heavy psychological pressures brought on both by operational demands and by the reliance on deception as a normative way of dealing with

The operative has to be highly intelligent, adventurous, a bit of a bastard, fluent in languages, and thick-skinned. Israel requires a relatively large number of operarives to deal with the buge intelligence challenges it faces. It is no longer true that only the 'best and the brightest" go into security careers, and there is little that can be done about this.

Hence it is difficult to find suitable candidates, and compromises

#### JOSEPH ALPHER

must be made. Nevertheless, too frequently we learn of operatives, or trainees like · Victor Ostrovsky (By Way of Deception), who are taken onboard in view of their special

The Mossad needs a spokesman so it can engage in

information control, rather than attempts at information denial

skills, such as languages or mili-tary background, while ignoring obvious personality defects. Ostrovsky's recruitment was not the first instance in which the Mossad chose to ignore a previous record of improprieties.

ALTERNATELY, over-reliance on a skilled operative like Gil results in his being kept on the job too long - or brought back from retire-

fresh forces, even at the expense of a temporary downturn in productivity. Operational personnel have to be screened better on the moral plane to weed out those who cannot distinguish between deceiving our enemies and deceiv- . detailed information. ing our own side.

ment - rather than bringing in

mistakes are inevitable. This brings us to an additional area in which, bowever belatedly, lessons can be learned from the Gil affair.

The Mossad needs a spokesman. The Gil affair offered a reliable illustration of the virtual impossibility of maintaining secrecy in Israel in the late 1990s, once initial information has gotten out. One reason is the growing readiness of Mossad personnel themselves to talk quietly to the press because of professional frustrations, personal grudges, politics, or even a sense that they are serving the national good.

Another is the way the modern electronic media works, rendering national borders and governmental press restrictions virtually meaningless. Finally, Israel's own standards of security censorship

have been radically softened in recent years; once the initial, deliberately vague report of the affair came out in Ha'aretz, the military censor was repeatedly unable to justify muzzling the media regarding additional, more

All this points to the need for the But because the buman factor is Mossad to engage in information paramount in Mossad operations, control, rather than (frequently ineffective) attempts at information denial. A spokesman who combines both security and media experience would conceivably be more successful in limiting the damage in a case like this. Hopefully, this would reduce the inclination of intelligence personnel to talk to the media in an irresponsible manner, while guaranteeing the public its maximum right to know, within security bounds.

This is not the first time the idea of a spokesman has been broached by this writer and others. What does the Mossad have to lose by trying?

The writer is a former senior official in the Mossad. He is currently director of the Israel/Middle East office of the American Jewish

## Long haul for pensions

The results of the strike that ended Monday morning, after paralyzing the country for several days, were sufficiently inconclusive for both sides to claim

at least a partial victory. Given the loose ends drooping from the temporary settlement and. more importantly, given the fact that the Treasury and the public sector unions are only now going to open negotiations on the next multiyear wage package, it seems a fair bet that we will see more labor unrest in the not-too-distant future.

However, on the underlying issue over which the strike was conducted, some clear progress was made. The issue is the structure of the public sector pension system, and the progress was that the Histadrut agreed that all new employees in the public sector will be in a contributory pension plan, whereas hitherto they have been in a non-contributoty one.

The difference between the two approaches is enormous: In a contributory scheme, not only does the employee pay a percentage of his gross salary into his pension plan, but the employer knows exactly how much his contribution is – and this hearness this becomes part of his ongoing wage costs. When the employee retires, his pension is not paid by the employer but by the pension fund where it has accumulated, so that retirement ends the financial obligation of the employer to the

(now former) employee. In a non-contributory system. known as a "budgetary pension," the employer - i.e. the government, local authority, state agency, etc. pays pensions to former employees out of its current budget. As the Treasury was at pains to point out during the recent dispute, the actuarial obligation built up by the state to

#### PINCHAS LANDAU

former and current employees meaning the money it will have to pay out in the future, but hasn't yet budgeted - amounts to an estimated NIS 163 billion. Worse, it is growing at a very rapid clip, so that although it doesn't show up in current budgets or in existing government debt, it represents a massive addition to total government indebtedness.

Enough to bankrupt the country. sooner or later, if the system isn't changed. That's no idle threat, as a series of crises in European countries (Sweden, Italy, and others) in recent years, has made abundantly

BUT the latest agreement between the Treasury and the Histadrut doesn't mean that Israel bas sorted out its pension structure problem. In the best case, it means that a significant step forward bas been made. The trouble is that the Histadrut bas previously agreed (twice!) to move the public sector from budgetary to contributory pensions, but the public sector unions have blocked the implementation of this move.

Even if the Treasury has now maneuvered the Histadrut and the unions into going ahead with the move, which will in any case be a very gradual process, that gain bas proven costly. It has been achieved only after a tough and hitter struggle which saw the government renege on an obligation signed - however wrongly and for whatever political motives - by the previous government, and after the Histadrut brazenly flout-

ed National Labor Court rulings. This damage could have been avoided by the government adopting a less overtly aggressive stance toward the Histadrut. The Treasury's tactics boomeranged so badly that many commentators have credited the government with the improbable achievement of giving the morihund and bankrupt Histadrut a new lease on life. A process of negotiation in which the government showed firm resolve, hut without viciousness, might well have achieved more, almost certainly at a lower cost.

Lastly, but hardly least, the latest pension deal, no less than its prede-cessors, is fundamentally flawed by the fact that it enshrines the right of pension funds to put most of their money in non-tradable, highyield government bonds.

It is difficult to exaggerate the long-term damage that this will do to the economy. The clearest and most immediate aspect of this damage is that it ensures that the Israeli capital markets will remain shallow. illiquid, and largely useless for corporations seeking to raise debt and for private investors seeking to invest in such corporate paper. In short, the bond market, which is the heart of the capital market, remains nationalized, as it always has been. That's very bad news for the development of the financial markets, and bad news for investors. Corporations will seek alternative capital sources overseas, but the most natural supply of investment funds for the domestic economy, namely long-term domestic savings, remains blocked. Indeed, the blockage has been strengthened and consolidated by a supposedly promarket government which, in this as in most things, bas demonstrated

The writer comments on economic

that it knows not what it does.

The turning point in the McCarthy era in the US came when Joseph Welch, chief counsel for the US Army confronted the Wisconsin senator in public hearings with the quesuon, "Sir, have you no sense of decency left?" The same question could be

addressed today to the leaders of the Reform and Conservative movements over their campaign against passage of the conversion bill. Their no-holds-barred tactics have bitterly divided world Jewry, alienated American Jews from Israel, and seriously undermined the position of Israel with the Clinton administration. And for what?

Because a few dozen Reform and Conservative rabbis in Israel feel dissed that they cannot officiare at weddings and their conversions are not recognized by the Chief Rabbinate. (In every other respect, they function no differently than in America.)

Amiel Hirsch, head of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, told Kol Yisrael this past summer how he and bis colleagues have asked members of Congress, with whom they have ties, to inform Israel how upset they are with the religious status quo. Since Hirsch suffers from no lack of access to Israeli leaders and MKs, his statement must be read: We have asked US congressmen to threaten and pressure

The results of that lobbying have been all too evident. Last May, Assistant Secretary of State Stepben Coffey, in testimony before the Senate, lumped Israel together with Iraq, Algeria, and Iran as countries that deny freedom of religion. He was doing binger of things to come.

#### JONATHAN ROSENBLUM

A question of tactics

nothing more than echoing the "big lie" of the Reform and Conservative ad campaign that Israel is, or soon will be, an Iranstyle theocracy.

undercuts the major basis of Israel's defense, that the president

JUST two months ago, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright placed the onus for the stalled peace talks on the failure of the PLO to deal with terrorism. Today, the Clinton The damage done to Israel by administration is so confident that such testimony is inestimable. It American Jews will not rally to

In their battle against the conversion bill, the Reform and Conservative movements have bitterly divided world Jewry and seriously undermined the position of Israel with the Clinton administration

Israel's support with the American public and Congress: its claim to be the only functioning democracy in the Middle East. Nor is the damage limited to Congress.

If President Bill Clinton bad not read three front-page stories in The New York Times two weeks ago describing the mounting dis-affection of American Jewry over the conversion bill, would be have been so quick to attribute America's ongoing bumiliation by Saddam Hussein not to his own lack of resolve, but to Israel's alleged recalcirrance in the peace process? Even for a president so experienced at brazening himself out of embarrassing situations that was a little much.

Unfortunately, bowever, as the perception grows in Washington that Israel can count on little support in the American Jewish community - a perception fueled by open lobbying by Jewish groups against Israel - it is a likely harfeels free to snub Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and to place the blame on Israel for the failure of the peace process.

Israel is far too important to be left to Israelis, says Eric Yoffie, leader of the American Reform movement, by way of explaining why American Jews bave undertaken to save Israelis from the religious status quo that has been in place since the creation of the state. Israelis are too stupid, in his view, to realize how oppressed they are. The truth is, bowever, that nei-

ther Yoffie nor the minions for whom he claims to speak care greatly about either Israel or Israelis. If the Reform movement cared, it would not be undermining Israel's standing by its lobbying efforts at a time when the physical security of Israel's inhabitants is increasingly threatened by enemies arming themselves with nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons.

According to a 1995 study by the American Jewisb Congress, only columnist.

17 percent of Reform Jews identify strongly with Israel (as opposed to 72% of the Orthodox), and over 40% say that they would not view the destruction of Israel as a personal tragedy. Only 10% of non-Orthodox American Jews have even visited Israel.

These grim numbers will only worsen as the toll of intermarriage rises. The Reform intermarriage rate is already well above 50%, and only 18% of the children of intermarriage are raised as Jews. It is these statistics, and the loss of any meaningful Jewisb identity they reveal, which make a Jewish campaign against Israel psychologically thinkable in the first place.

Yet as tepid as is the support for Israel by most non-Orthodox Jews. Israel nevertheless remains one of the few points of Jewish identity. By continually drumming bome to their congregants, in sermon after sermon, that Israel rejects Reform Jews, Reform leaders are playing with fire for very short-term gain.

The Orthodox-bashing that dommated Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur sermons across the US is a measure of the spiritual failure of the Reform and Conservative movements over the past hundred vears in America. The only thing they can offer to arouse their members is batred of the Orthodox.

But when all the fusillades against the Orthodox have cleared. American Jews will be no closer to their tradition. Just the opposite. Having been taught to despise the most identifiable representatives of that tradition and that the Jewish state is not theirs, they will be more spiritually bereft than ever.

The writer is a Jerusalem Post

high. "Young couples and new immigrants

and because of that prices don't decline.

and even rise slightly in certain areas," said Meir Nachson CEO of the Anglo-

Prices in Jerusalem have also fallen, but

at a slower pace. Experts say the ongoing

shortage of houses in the capital keeps

demand high. In addition, foreign investors who lowered their business activity in

Prices of expensive apartments of four to

five bedrooms were also falling, with those

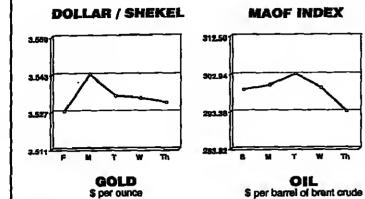
in the Ramat Aviv area losing close to 10%

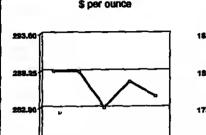
Saxon Real Estate Agency.

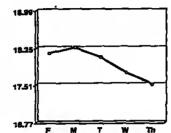
ideological reasons.

## **MARKETS**

in brief







#### **DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK**





Joint industrial parks in the Jordan, and Israel should be des-Minister Yaakov Neeman said yesterday at a conference of the for Middle East liberalization from restrictions by all governments concerned."

Corporation's principle invest-

how construction is progressing. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu urged regional husinessmen to work together to matter how the peace process devel-

\*Economic development should be developed in its own right," he said. "The first thing you have to do is foster trade and joint vontures, because what you can do together is better than what you

The center works to improve ment officer for the region. A economic cooperation among team from the corporation visited Israel, the PA, Egypt, and Jordan. the park earlier this week to see Netanyahu warned the businessmen that cooperation with surrounding countries is not a prize for Israel, but a shared regional

A European company bas recently expressed interest in setting up a joint Israeli-Egyptian high-tech company, Netanyahu said. "Why not think of Egypt as a mixed economy, high-tech and low-tech. Why can't we have joint ventures with Egypt. We can apply the same principles to chemicals, plastics, anything." "Israeli industry today is capa-

hle of building joint ventures in neighboring countries,"said Manufactures Association President Dan Propper.

Within 20 years Israel and its neighbors could have a well trained, technologically advanced implemented today, he suggested. This must be done in three stages: job creation, hringing the tech-nology to our neighbors, and these in turn creating the need for advanced education across the region. By combining R&D, new infrastructure, cducation, and marketing abroad, Israel and the neighboring countries can become the industrial backyard of

The return of Boeing to the com-

petition comes despite a recent

assertion by Mike Sears, president

of Boeing's McDonneli Aircraft and Missile Group, that the com-

pany will no longer pursue the

contract. "We bave stopped all

pro-active work to try to win that competition," he told a November

6 news conference in St. Louis.

"Our people are off to the side

looking at other things and think-

ing how we are going to win the

But the new Polish government,

elected in September, has refused

to accept Boeing's intention to

withdraw from the competition.

Defense industry sources said

Warsaw bas been under tremen-

dous pressure from the US

Congress, which says the competi-

non improperly favored the Israelis, to include Boeing in the

sion transpired seems to us suffi-

ciently faulty, to avoid using

stronger language, for it to be necessary to subject all of this to a

thorough analysis," Polish Deputy

The manner in which this deci-

next competition.

upgrade deal.

during the past year.

because the demand for these flats remains Figures compiled by the Housing Ministry show that, during the first nine are the main buyers of these apartments months of the year, sales of new apartments by the country's 10 largest companies fell 12% compared with the equivaient period of 1996.

The decline in housing prices is mainly attributed to the steady decline in immigration and to the general slowing-down of the economy. The influx of new immigrants in the

Israel because of the political situation early 1990s is widely seen as the main continue to purchase flats in Jerusalem for engine the behind the sharp rise in housing prices this decade.

Another factor impacting the market is the decline in the number of housing starts, which dropped 18% in the first nine

Real estate prices dropped by as much as 15% in 1997

If this decline continues, a shortage may be felt in the market within a year, experts

Industry sources said that many contractors are postponing new projects and some have even returned land to the Israel Lands Administration.

The sources said that while it is hard to predict when the market will recover, the general estimate is that if overall growth starts accelerating in the second half of 1998, it will generate increased demand, which in turn will result in higher property

Full feature to appear in Tuesday's

## Intel's Shabbat schedule meets rabbis' resistance

Housing prices declined by 5 to 15 per-

cent in real terms during the last 12

The sharpest decline was felt in luxury

homes selling for \$2 million-\$2.5m. along

the coastal plain, which lost 15% of their value. In some cases their market value fell

While prices of larger homes fell sharply, the prices of two-bedroom apartments

remained almost unchanged. The market

for these flats is relatively stable, with a

somewhat sharper decline in areas south of

Industry sources say that the market for

the small apartments remains stable,

months, industry sources estimate.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs will not grant Intel permission to operate its Kiryat Gat plant on Shabbat, sources close to this struggle said vesterday.

The assessment is based on the pressure recently exerted by various rabhis, who have sent letters to several plants operating on Shahbat, as well as to the ministers of labor and social affairs, industry and trade, and

Minister of Lahor and Social Affairs Eli Yishai has set up a team within bis ministry to review Intel's request for a per-

To date, pressure bas been brought to bear only by heads of local rabbinical councils, such given Shabhat permits.

as Yeruham's, where a struggle has been raging for a long time between the Phoenicia plant and the rabbinical council.

Until now, Shabbat work permits were only granted to plants where idle machines would cause severe damage, such as the Dead Sea magnesium plant, or plants which could let tron-Jewish workers operate production lines.

Globes has learned that more than a few plants continue to hold shifts on Shahbat to keep to delivery schedules, even without permits.

Among such plants are hightech and semiconductor plants, such as Tower Semiconductor which operates on Shabbat. It should be noted that some of Intel's local plants have been



When in Rome...

Students demonstrate in central Rome yesterday over proposed government cutbacks for state schools. The student's placard criticizes the funding of private schools at the expense of

# Neeman: PA parks should be free-trade zones

Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Competitive Strategy, "not only regarding taxation, but regarding

The Karni industrial park in Gaza should be ready for the first companies to move in by May, according to Kunio Kikuchi, the

#### Elbit, Boeing seek to cooperate in Polish copter upgrade bid By STEVE RODAN

Elbit Systems and Boeing are looking into including the North American aerospace giant in the \$650 million contract to upgrade Poland's Huzar helicopter, while not hampering the status of the Israeli consortium's two other members, Elbit executives said yesterday.

The Israeli consortium also includes also Rafael and El-Op Electro-Optics Industries. There is no way to break up the

package," Elbit president Joseph Ackerman said. "We will find a way to satisfy Boeing, even on Poland, without breaking up the consortium." The contacts between the two

companies come as Poland's Defense Ministry, despite signing an agreement with the consortium, intends to bring in Boeing as a leading participant in the controversial upgrade. The sources said a commission of Polish Defense. Economic, and Foreign Ministry officials is reexamining the com-petition between the Israeli consortium and a group led by

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Defense Minister Romuald Szeremietiew said in a recent interview on Polish television. Polish defense sources said if Elbit does not reach an under-

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standing with Boeing, then the officials and Israeli defense Defense Ministry will recommend sources agree that Warsaw did not the competition be reopened. Under the Polish proposal, which Israeli defense sources said has upgrade package.
"At this point, the agreement not been formally submitted, Elbit and El-Op would withdraw from the upgrade project. This would

missile. Israeli defense officials and Elbit executives have resisted this effort. Elbit executives have argued that their company's electronics package is vital to the NT-D missile system.

leave Boeing to supply the elec-

tronics and avionics upgrade, with

Rafael to sell the anti-armor NT-D

"An agreement has been signed between two countries," Elbit's Ackerman said. "From a technical and business point of view, you can't separate the deal. The Poles understand this."

Ackerman said Elbit bas not heard any appeal from the new Polish government to include Boeing in the Huzar contract. He said his company remains in con-tact with the Defense Ministry in Warsaw concerning the technical issues of the upgrade.

On October 13, Israeli and Polish officials signed a framework agreement that lays the foundation for a contract award to the Elbit-led consortium, But Polish

sign a contract to purchase either the inissiles of the electronics

signed is only a piece of paper." Avraham Bar-David, president of Tamuz Control

Defense executives in both Israel and the US said Boeing, despite its announcement, still intends to participate in the Huzar upgrade. The executives said the US company, which has quietly discussed the prospects of cooperation with Elbit and Rafael, is con-vinced that the Poles are seeking to include it in an attempt to assuage US officials who bave charged that the tender was improper

A Boeing spokesman, Paul Tobin, did not rule out a return to the competition. "We like everyone else have seen the wide variety of press coverage on this issue," he said. "What is clear is that this is a matter that first must be resolved within the government of Poland. Once that decision is made, we will determine which course best suits all of our customers and our company."

Bar-David said unless Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu

from every view

Israel point of

intervenes the Poles will grant the

He said Elbit will not allow

Rafael to leave the consortium,

leaving the Poles no other way to

include US contractors in the

tremendous pressure," be said.

"Unless the prime minister is

ready to talk straight in Washington with the White House

and tell it that if we don't win this

project, we will lose 2,000 jobs, so

let this go, then Boeing will win

POST

The Americans are applying.

entire contract to Boeing.

Huzar upgrade.

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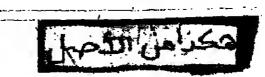
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DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA ABA COMPUTER STRIEMS LIMITED Foreign financial data courtesy of **CommStock Trading Ltd.** Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds 34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem

Pacific Mediterranean Capital Markets Group

Stock broking Equity & macro research Money management Corporate finance ephone, 972,9,9585877.5 Mail: 10274.10004 composers c.c.

**ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS** 

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.11.97) Currency (deposit for:) U.S. dollar (\$250,000) Pound sterling (£100,000) 12 MONTHS 5.000 5.750 5.000 5.250 6.000 German mark (DM 200,000) Swiss franc (SF 200,000) 2.250 0.625 Yen (10 million yen) (Flates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit) Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (11.12.97)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKN	Rep.	
	Buy	Self	Buy	Sell	Rates
Currency basket	3.7582	3.8168	_	_	3.7895
U.S. dollar	3.4993	3.5558	3.43	3.61	3.5310
German mark	1.9699	2.0017	1.93	2.03	1.9866
Pound sterling	5.7805	5.8734	5.68	5.96	5.8367
French franc	0.5884	0.5975	0.57	0.61	0.5934
Japanese yen (100)	2.7137	2.757S	2.66	2.80	2.7298
Dutch florin	1.7485	1.7768	1.71	1.\$1	1.7629
Swigs franc	2.4365	2.4756	2.33	2.52	2,4543
Swedish krona	0.4501	0.4574	0.44	0.47	0.4548
Norwegian krone	0.4839	0.4912	0.47	0.50	0.4883
Danish krone	0.5172	0.5256	0.50	0.54	0.5215
Finnish mark	0.6530	0.6636	0.64	9.68	0.6588
Canadian dollar	2.4562	2.4959	2.41	2.54	2,4790
Australian dollar	2.3370	2.3747	2.29	2.41	2.3596
S. African rand	0.7157	0.7273	0.64	0.73	0.7220
Belgian franc (10)	0.9549	0.9704	0.93	0.99	0.9629
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7997	2.8441	2.75	2.89	2.8251
Italian iira (1000)	2.0126	2.0455	1.97	2.08	2.0276
Jordanian dinar	4.9181	4.9975	4.85	5.19	4.9611
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1,0800	1.00	1,08	1.0416
ECU	3.8995	3,9624			3.9293
Irish punt	5.0987	S,1790	5.00	5.26	5.1464

"These rates vary according to bank. "Bank of Israel.

**SOURCE: BANK LEUM!** 

# TASE falls on world market slump

#### **Tel Aviv**

Israeli stocks fell yesterday, as declining world markets sparked investors' concern that turmoil in Asia will hurt corporate profits. Declines were led by banks, with Bank Hapoalim, the country's largest bank, falling 3 percent, and Bank Leumi, Israel's second-biggest bank, falling 1.5 percent. The Maof Index of 25 stocks

declined 2.02 percent, to 293.38. The Mishtanim Index fell 1.94 perceot, to 281.79. The Tel Aviv Cootinuous Trading Index fell 1.56 percent, to 94.56. The general bond index fell 0.21 percent.

"Hong Kong dropping worries people in London, and when people in London are worried, so are people in Tel Aviv," said Ira Slomowitz, in sales and trading at Israel Brokerage and Investments, a Tel Aviv investment firm.

From Tuesday December 2, before a nationwide strike shut the exchange for five days, the Maof Index fell 1.9 percent and the Mishtanim Index fell 2.4 percent, as Israeli markets tracked falling international markets.

Investors are likely to look ahead to other markets in the coming days as well, said Doron Tsur, the head of research at Sahar Securities, a Tel Aviv firm. "Next week, New York trading will have more impact on shares than even the CPI," Tsur said, "In the long run, inflation will influence the market here, but not in the short ing, and to be a buyer," said David

He said November's CPI, due to be announced on Monday, is likely to rise 0.3 percent to 0.4 per-

#### Europe

UK stocks rumbled as plunging Asian equities threatened demand for British goods and sparked concem compediion for exporters will intensify. Falling US stocks underpinned the decline.

"It's oot just about Asian demand, it's also about Asian supply," said Paul O'Connor, a strategist at BZW Ltd. in London. "The overall sense is that the effect is going to be quite broad."

The benchmark FT-SE 100 Index dropped 94.8 points, or 1.9 percent, to 5035.9, its worst oneday decline in nearly five weeks. HSBC Holdings Plc, the parent of Hongkong Bank Ltd., led declin-

In Asia, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index tumbled 5.5 percent. South Korea's benchmark KOSPI index fell 5.7 percent and Japan's Nikkei 225 Index slid 2.6 percent. Stocks and currencies around Asia have been suffering for several months amid signs the region's economies and companies aren't as robust as previously thought, sparking a worldwide rout in equi-

"We've got a long way to go before we can see the skies clear-



Maof 293.98 v 2.02% Dow Jones 7849 w 1.63% FISE 5035.9 V 1.85% Nikkei 16050.15 ¥ 2.6%

Thornton, an investment director at Henderson Investors in London. which has about \$16 billion invested in UK stocks. "It's a time for defensiveness."

HSBC dropped 84 pence to 1,536 while Standard Chartered Pic, another bank, lost 27p to 698. Cable & Wireless Plc, which has a majority stake in Hong Kong Telecommunications Ltd., fell 9.5p to 529. Rio Tinto Plc, the world's largest mining company, declined 30p to 750 amid concern Asian demand for metals could be declining.

#### Asia

Japanese stocks fell, led by banks such as Mitsubishi Trust & Banking Corp., on investor con-

cem that divisions within the ruling party will stymic a proposal to use publicly financed bonds to stabilize the financial system.

"The market is having its doubts about the feasibility of the planned 10 trillion yen (\$77.5 billion) bood issuance," said Jason James, head of research at HSBC James Capel Japan Ltd. Investors are also concerned that it's taking longer than expected to sort out the details of the financial stabilization measures,

he said. The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average fell 427.97 points, or 2.6 percent, to 16,050.15, its biggest percentage drop since Nov. 25. The broader Topix average of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell 25.42 points, or 2.05 percent,

to 1215.74. On Wednesday, many ruling Liberal Democratic Party legislators voiced opposition to the idea of issuing bonds, covered by sales of government-held stocks, saying the move runs counter to the government's goal of reducing the fiscal deficit. An emergency LDP committee on stabilization of the financial system is set to meet later today to discuss the propos-

The LDP may release an outline of its financial system stabilization plan as early as tomorrow. The party said it will unveil its third ecocomic stimulos package on Tuesday.

#### Wall Street

Stocks fell sharply yesterday, as Asia's economic woes pushed the technology and financial sectors farther along their three-day

downslide. On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 129.80 points - or 1.63 percent - at 7.848.99. Earlier in the day, the index had dropped more than 160

points. Banking and high-tech shares continued the heavy losses that hurt the market on Wednesday as more companies warned of upcoming earnings trouble.

Quantum Corp., a maker of disk drives, was one of Nasdaq's heaviest losers, falling more than 4. After the close of trading Wednesday, Quantum said weakness in Asian markets will hurt its carnings in the current quarter.

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Similarly, Applied Materials Inc. numbled after Merrill Lynch and Co. downgraded its rating on the semiconductor equipment firm.

Asia has accounted for much of the high-tech companies' booming profit growth in recent years, and analysts expect the currency woes and economic turmoil there to

have a significant impact. "It's easy to just blame Asia," said Brian Belski, technical analyst at Dain Bosworth in Minneapolis. But the companies and the industries that have very heavy exposure there are in for some trouble."

# European currencies rise as US stocks drop

The dollar yesterday suffered its Bank of Switzerland. That's dragworst decline against the mark in seven weeks and fell against other European currencies as declines in global stocks sparked a sell-off of US shares.

Benchmark stock indexes in Asia and Europe tumbled and US stocks followed suit on concern that slowing economies in Asia may reduce the profits of American companies, analysts

There's a free-fall in some of these markets, and the stakes are rising in the US," said Seth Cohen, head of currency sales at Uoion ging the dollar down against European currencies, he said. The dollar fell to 1.7704 marks

also fell to 1.4362 Swiss francs from 1,4467 francs. The dollar rose to 130.05 yen from 129.42 yen Wednesday on expectation that stock market and

from 1.7882 marks Wednesday. It

currency declines across Asia will hurt Japan more than the US. The benchmark Dow Jones Industrial Average fell more than 100 points in late trading yesterday morning. That's bad for the dollar

because global investors selling



CURRENCIES

Basket 3.7895 A 0.03% Mark 1.9866 A 0.32% Sterling 5.8367 A 0.28% US stocks often convert the dollar look for the Asian countries has proceeds into their home curren-Traders shunned the dollar for

European currencies amid speculation that US corporations will be hurt more by declining stock markets and numbling currencies in Asia than European companies. "The sense is that the US is more

tightly tied to what's going on in Asia than Europe," said Cohen. Several US companies - includ-ing Kulicke & Soffa Industries Inc. and Lattice Semiconductor Corp. said their profits will be hurt by financial crisis in Korea. "The outgot to be so negative for US companies that put so much value in growth and expansion in Asia," said Rick Porter, manager of foreign exchange sales at Kredietbank.

To be sure, the mark may weaken in coming days on expectations that Europe, too, has much to lose from its exposure to Asia, economists said. Asian trade accounts for about 30 percent of all of Europe's out-of-region trade close to the US figure, according to economists at Chase Manhattan (Bloomberg)

# Oil declines on concerns over excess supply

#### **Precious metals**

Silver for immediate delivery surged amid growing speculation a group of investors is trying to corner the market at a time when demand from industrial consumers and jewelry makers is buoyant. In mid-October, securities bouse Merrill Lynch warned that a syndicate of investors and traders controlled a very large amount of silver in New York and London and was seeking to buy more to create a shortage and drive up prices. It didn't name the speculators involved. Silver for immediate delivery rose five cents to \$5.98 an ounce.

newspaper reported that the planned European Central Bank will hold as little as five percept of its reserves as gold, at the lower end of analysts' expectations. Boersen-Zeitung based the story oo unnamed people based in unideotified European central banks and governments. Spot gold recently traded \$1.85 lower at \$285.15 an ounce.

#### Oil

Brent crude oil futures declined on concerns that increases in global supplies early next year will put too much oil on the market. Iraq is expected to boost global supplies

COMMODITIES

Gold \$283.95 ¥ 3,05% Crade Oil \$17.43 A 0.81 CRB 237.47 y 0.92%

third round of UN-sanctioned oil sales should start. That's going to collide with higher production from OPEC. Oil demand isn't Gold dropped as a German by 1% in early January, when a expected to soak up the extra bar-

#### ucts like heating fuels. January Brent crude futures fell 18 cents to \$17.24 a barrel, extending yesterday's decline.

**Others** 

Coffee fell as Vietnamese grow-

ers resumed sales, leading to expectations of ample supplies of lower-grade robusta coffee beans. While hoarding by Vietnamese coffee growers has reduced the country's coffee shipments this month, a 4.3% rise in prices in London yesterday encouraged

some sales by local growers.

rels heading for the market next Almost all of Vietnam's coffee year, because a mild winter so far crop is of robusta beans - the kind delivery fell \$48 to \$1,782 a metric ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange.

Cocoa prices rose in London. On Wednesday, the International Cocoa Organization's production committee agreed to maintain its aim of achieving a 34% ratio of stockpiles to consumption.

Producers will need to reduce cocoa output in order to decrease the ratio, which was 44.1% at the end of the last crop year, according to figures produced by the Economist Intelligence Unit. Cocoa for March delivery rose £22 to £1,104 a ton

## US bonds rise on Asia turmoil, retail report

US bonds rose, driving the 30year yield down to six percent, as turmoil in Asia spurred safe-haven buying of Treasury securioes and a report showed a smaller-thanexpected increase in retail sales last month.

"This is the shot in the arm that people thought the bond would need to go through 6%," said Patricia Larkin, who oversees the management of \$35 billion at Dreyfus Corp., and was buying Treasury securities yesterday. "The feeling is it will be more expensive on Monday."

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 30/32 point, or \$9.38 per \$1,000 bond, to 101 22/32, cutting its yield 7 basis points to 6%. Bond yields briefly dipped to a 22-month low of 5.99%. The yield on the two-year note fell 7 basis points to 5.64%. Bonds gained as stock markets in Asia and Europe fell, prompting

investors to purchase Treasury

securities as a refuge. South Korea's benchmark stock index tumbled 5.6%, to 377.37 amid a deepening financial crisis. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index lost 5.5% to 601.31, its biggest fall since October 28.

"People are talking about the flight to quality again," said Ken Fan, a government bond trader at Paribas Corp.
Treasuries added to their gains

after the government reported that retail sales rose 0.2% last month, less than the 0.5% increase forecast by analysts in a Bloomberg News survey. The report eased concern that robust economic growth will fuel inflation, which erodes the value of bonds' fixed returns. "Inflation is dormant and as long

as it stays that way the bonds can do better," said Terrence Pigott, head government bood trader at Daiwa Securities America Inc. Investors eyed the retail sales



results in particular, because of concern a pick-up in consumer demand might lead to faster inflation, which erodes bonds' value. Consumer spending accounts for about two-thirds of US economic "Retail sales are the front end of

the train - it shows us the economy is slowing," said Van Hoisington, who manages about \$2.6 billion in bonds for Hoisington Investment Management in Austin, Texas. All of the funds Hoisington manages are invested in 30-year bonds or zero-coupon securities - the bonds that benefit most from falling yields - because he things inflation will keep slowing and growth will slow to about 1% next year.

To be sure, some analysts are calling for a robust holiday shopping season, as the strong economy and booming jobs market put consumers in a mind to spend.

The increase in retail sales follows Friday's release of a government report showing that the economy added almost twice as many jobs as expected in November. Worker's average hourly earnings, considered an indicator of inflation, also rose double what was

Yesterday the Labor Department said the oumber of US workers applying for state unemployment benefits fell by 13,000 last week to s seasonally adjusted 311,000 another sign the labor market remains healthy.

Some investors fret that employers luring scarce workers with higher wages may pass those costs on to consumers in the form of higher prices. Yet others expect that a slowdown in Asia will filter through to the US, restraining growth and curbing inflation.
"We're looking for the Asian cri-

sis to give us a little bit of a slowdowo in the first part of next year," said Steven Wood, director of financial market research at BancAmerica Robertson Stephens in San Francisco.

inflation is already running at the slowest pace in a decade; coosumer prices rose at just a 1.8% annual rate through October. Government reports on producer and consumer prices slated for today and next week are likely to show inflation little changed in November, according to the forecasts of economists surveyed by Bloomberg News.
(Bloomberg)

#### PULLBACK Continued from Page 1

Sharon and Mordechai are to tour the areas under discussion

Members of Mordechai's and Sharon's staffs worked virtually around the clock for 72 hours without reaching an agreement.

"The gaps [between Mordechai and Sbaron] were narrowed, but there was no consensus." a source said. "They have the same goal, but do not agree on the approach." Sharon insists that the PA must fulfill all its commitments regarding security and the fight against terrorism before any redeployment can be implemented. Meanwhile, PA representatives

expressed disappointment with the outcome of the talks in the bilateral committees at this stage of their negotiating marathon. PA coordinator Hassan Asfour

said that no progress was made with regard to a Palestinian airport, safe passage between the . West Bank and Gaza Strip, and the joint industrial park at Kami, Itim

"The Israeli proposal for a withdrawal is a political hoax," he said. "It is meant to evade the international pressore being brought to bear on Israel. By now, all the Palestinian areas were supposed to be transferred to us, with the exception of the sectors due to be discussed in the final-status

In cootrast, cabinet secretary

Dan Naveh told Army Radio that Netanyahu will submit the map of Israel's interests regarding a final settlement to Albright if the cabinet completes its deliberations on Sunday. Naveh does not expect him to present her with a map of the pullback, however, contending that it will be a "long time" before it is ready.

"The US is not pressuring the government of Israel to speed up its decision-making process," he said. "Israel does not face a deadline, and no one is holding a stopwatch. In any case, Israel will decide on the timetable for this important discussion now under way, and oo one can impose a Albright's two recent meetings timetable that could harm our ability to conduct serious and orderly approaching the redeployment deliberations on this subject."

#### ALBRIGHT Continued from Page 1

The US stated it no looger sees the end of the year as a target date for moving Israeli-Palestinian negotiations ahead. The change was articulated in a Wednesday night conference call among Indyk, special peace process coordinator Dennis Ross, and a dozen representatives of the Conference of Presidents of Major American

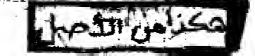
Jewish Organizations. The diplomats said that US-Israeli nes on the peace process have improved as a result of with Netanyahu, and Netanyahu is question with proper seriousness.

But the senior administration official repeated the US view that the redeployments should be completed by mid-1998, as per the Hebron Accord's Notes for the Record, because "it's important as a matter of principle that we live

up to our commitments." He also said the US still believes that, as per those letters, Israel may decide the scale of redeployment, and that US-Israeli discussions on the matter are "not inconsistent" with that position.

As to whether Israel must carry out the third redeployment if finalstatus talks are under way by the middle of next year, he said "it depends" and "we'll cross that bridge wheo we come to it. "Jay Bushinsky contributed to

this report.



## NEWSinFOCUS Friday, December 12, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

# A spy caught in his own web

The false information spread by Yehuda Gil did not harm national security. But in the murky world of international intelligence, the damage to Israel's reputation might be significant, experts tell Herb Keinon

there was something refreshing, even heartwarmingly L Jewish, about hearing legendary Mossad officer Rafi Eitan quoting the medieval biblical commentator Rashi, while giving his spin this week on the Yehuda Gil Affair.

riday, December 12, 1997

Wall Street

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ompanies boom TO ATT IN THEOREM SCARL "Look," Eitan told Israel Radio, in a gravelly voice, "the first spies in the Bible – the 12 spies who went to spy out the Land of Canaan - came back and spoke badly about it."

Then, sounding more like a rabbi delivering a sermon than like an intelligence officer involved in some of the country's biggest spy coups - and failures - Eitan said: "There is a Rashi commentary there that says the greatest damage the spies did was to give advice Inot merely report accurately what they saw]. It is forbidden for handlers, or for the agencies, to give advice. They must only report the

facts, not give commentary."
Like the biblical spies who exaggerated the size and ferocity of the inhabitants of Canaan to dissuade the Children of Israel from attempting to conquer it, so -Eitan implied - Gil passed on his false information to help the military and political echelon come to the "proper" conclusion: That the Syrians never made a strategic choice for peace. Here is a man who had a thesis, and then cooked

up the facts to support it. "I was very surprised by this," said Ephraim Lapid, who served 20 years in military intelligence, including three years as the head of one of its key departments. "We have never had anything like this before. I would have been less surprised to have heard about a double agent. That is something known. But Gil was not an agent. Agents are generally Arab sources. Gil was a Mossad employee. This is comparable to an architect who designs a bouse, and then turns out to be the one responsible for destroying it."

THE GIL Affair is not the first time a Mossad operative has

In the early days of the state there was Avri Elad, the so-called "Third Man" in the notorious

1950s espionage case, who betrayed his Israeli comrades to the Egyptians in an episode that has come to be known as the Lavon Affair. And there was Mordechai Keidar, a Mossad man who spent 17 years in jail for killing an intelligence informant in Argentina in 1961.

More recently the Mossad pro-duced Victor Ostrovsky, the man who spent 14 months in the Mossad in the 1980s, and then went to Canada and wrote two

Yehuda GH was neither Kim Philby nor Aldridge Ames. He was an embarrassing gnat on the Mossad's reputation, but he was no burrowing mole

kiss-and-tell books about the organization (see adjacent story). Ostrovsky, like Gil, was accused of badly tarnishing the organization's reputation.

All week long, pundits and intelligence analysts were repeating a common line: Gil did not do any real damage to state security. He did not pass on secrets to the state's enemies, he was not a double agent. Yehuda Gil was neither Kim Philby nor Aldridge Ames. He was an embarrassing gnat on the Mossad's reputation, but he was no burrowing mole.

In the smoke-and-mirrors world world intelligence, however, reputation means a lot. Damage an agency's reputation, and you damage its ability to collect information - both from prospective agents, and other spy agencies.

It is possible, said Lapid, that someone who may have been willing to work with the Mossad, may now change his mind.

The willingness of people to

cooperate with us is not something concrete. They like to cooperate with somebody strong, professional and with a good name. It happens many times that when the image changes - the image of the country in general and the intelligence agencies in particular - things change. The willingness to cooper-

ate is influenced by our image."

The importance of image can be likened to the choice a person makes on what airline to fly, said a source well acquainted with the intelligence community. "If you have a choice to fly Aeroflot or Swissair," he said, "which airline are you going to choose?"

BENNY MORRIS, co-author of Israel's Secret Wars: The Untold History of Israeli Intelligence, said "If you are trying to recruit an agent in Europe or wherever, and you say you are from the Mossad, if the man respects the organization, thinks he will be paid properly, that he will be protected, and that there won't be leaks, then the job is easier. But if the organization has a reputation that it is full of leaks and people who make up stories, then he will think twice and three times about joining up."

Having said that, Morris, a professor of history at Ben-Gurion University and a central figure in what has become known as the school of "new" or "revisionist" Zionist historians, said he can't measure the damage of the Gil

"The Mossad is not crawling with 5,000 people all making up stories," Morris said. "As far as we know, it is one incident in 40 or 50 years of someone making up stories for political purposes and self-importance."

According to Morris, one possible repercussion will be that "it might raise new inhibitious or new doubts that this is a place people will want to go to if they want to give information to a Western intelligence organization.

"Remember, we are not the only people in the field; there are the British and Americans, and they are all trying to find about Iraq and Iran. If a guy wants to sell infor-mation, he might think it is safer

to do it with [Britain's] MI6." On a completely theoretical level, said Uri Bialer, an international relations professor at the Hebrew University who has done research on intelligence and international relations, "intelligence agencies gather information both unilaterally and bilaterally,

agencies. In dealing with other agencies, this [the Gil Affair] is not positive." But, Bialer said, "These things are universal. All intelligence agencies have affairs that show they are not dependable. This can

- but does not always necessarily

through connections with other

have to - cause problems. "I am convinced that when the British moles were revealed in the '50s and '60s, this did not help British intelligence in its relations with the CIA. That is the clearest metaphor I can give. I'm not saying this is our case, but something like this is definitely not desirable." That is on the theoretical plane.

In real life, said Lapid, this incident is not likely to impact that beavily on the Mossad's relations with other institutions.

The other intelligence agencies know how to keep a single inci-dent in proportion," he said. "They have a history of feedback with us, and information from us on many different planes. They know our true abilities."

In other words, Lapid said, the CIA is not going to downgrade relations with the Mossad as a result of Yehuda Gil.

The CIA knows exactly what we are worth, both for better and for worse," he said.

A COMPLETELY different area in which the aftershocks of the affair may well be felt, Morris said, is in the readiness of various Arab countries to trade information with Israel.

This could cause damage between us and Arab states we are dealing with," Morris said. "They expect a certain amount of discre-tion and truthful information back and forth. If this man was feeding misinformation inside the organization, perhaps he was feeding real information outside the organization, maybe to his friends in

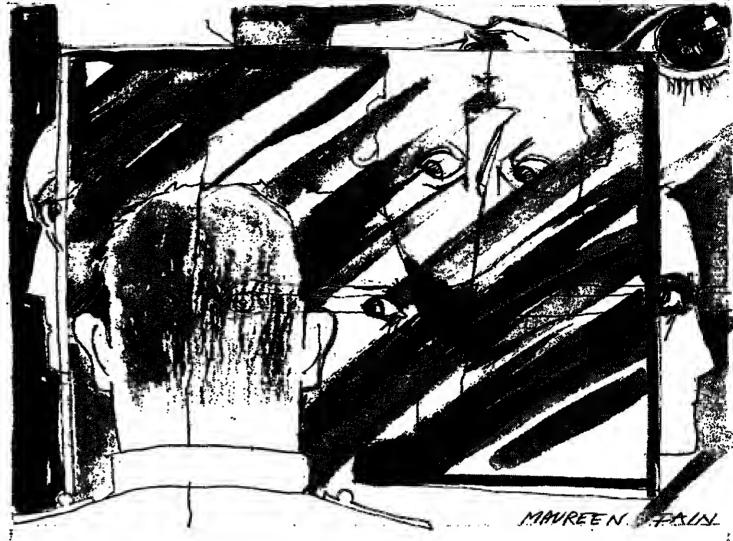
Moledet. "If [Jordan's King] Hussein or [Syrian President Hafez] Assad are negotiating with us, they don't exactly want Moledet or anyone else knowing secret communications. There are a number of different ways this can run badly for

The revelation of the Gil Affair, coming so soon after the Mashaal mishap in Jordan, raises an obvi-ous question: What has happened to the country's vannted security

"These two things coming together is potentially very bad." Morris said. "I wouldn't say disastrous, but very bad. But I think it is just coincidence. I don't believe the Mossad is simply going downhill and these are symptoms. I believe it is about at the same level it has been for years, and that these two things just happened at the wrong time."

According to Morris, the recruitment policies of the country's intelligence branches are the same as they have always been, and the training is also the same.

"In the past this was very effective and produced good results," Morris said. "Why should I now believe that everything is falling



## Another look at Victor Ostrovsky

The Yehuda Gil Affair might be bad for the Mossad and bad for Israel, but it's been great for Victor Ostrovsky.

Ostrovsky is the renegade Mossad agent, who spent 14 months in the agency before being drummed out in the 1980s. He subsequently returned to his native Canada and wrote two damning books about the Mossad. The first, By Way of Deception, was for months the center of a storm, as the government sought unsuccessfully to ban its publication.

Yehuda Gil appears a number of times in Ostrovsky's book.
"Next came Yehnda Gil's lecture on the subtleties of recruit-

ment," Ostrovsky wrote of his days in the Mossad's training course. "Gil was a legendary katsa [case officer in charge of recruiting agents abroad], whom Riff [commander of the training course] introduced as 'a master.'

Ostrovsky wrote how Gil helped gather intelligence on the Iraqi nuclear weapons plant that was destroyed in an IAF raid in 1981, how he belped plan Operation Moses, which brought

wealthy entrepreneur to recruit the brother of a high-ranking Syrian official. The brother gained information from his influential brother and, unbeknownst to him, passed it on to

Yehuda Gils in the Mossad,' Victor Ostrovsky said

Ostrovsky, widely considered here to be a miscreant who sold out his country for a fat publishing advance, enjoyed a degree of rehabilitation this week, as journalists turned to him for the inside scoop on the Gil be wrote about in his book. In one interview, Ostrovsky said it would be a grave mistake to think that Gil was alone in pocketing money meant for intelligence sources. "There are many Yehuda Gils in

thousands of Ethiopian Jews here the Mossad," he said. "There is in 1985, and how he posed as a almost no katsa who doesn't have an agent he handles, whom only he knows, and whom nobody else can talk to. Almost everyone makes sure that he has one person like this, so that he can continue to travel the world and meet with him. There are many case officers that not only do this for the trips, but who also take money meant for these agents."

One source well acquainted with the intelligence community angrily dismissed Ostrosvky's charges, saying they are complete nonsense. He is a rogue even more than

Gil," the source said. "Now he is riding on a wave. Who is he all of a sudden - the defender of jus-

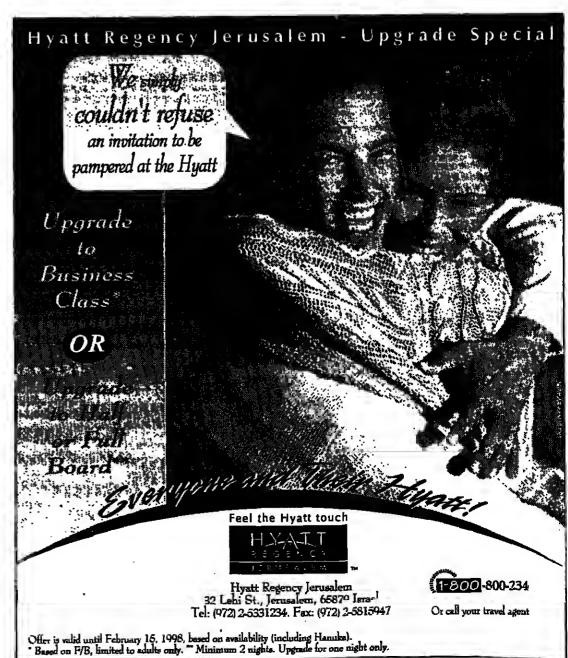
But Benny Morris, who coauthored Israel's Secret Wars: The Untold History of Israeli Intelligence - was not willing to dismiss as lies everything that

Ostrovsky says.
"He has told things that are true, revealed important secrets,"
Morris said, "but be has also
made up things to pad his books.
One cannot know when he is
telling the truth."

— H.K.

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# Winners and losers in the Histadrut strike

fter the Histadrut and the Finance Ministry agreed on Monday afternoon to settle the five-day general strike, it was as easy to tell the winners from the losers as it is from watching the faces in the opposing teams' locker rooms after the Super Bowl A laughing Histadrut secretary-general Amir Peretz was being lifted on the shoulders of his lieutenants. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and his aides sat looking like they'd been hit by a tornado.

The strike, in which the labor federation won most of its pension demands, was not only an organizational win for the Histadrut but also personal one for Peretz. Meanwhile, it was a political loss and only for Neeman, but also for - Prime Minister Netanyahu, said vet-.zaccan political analyst Hanan Kristal.

As for Histadrut employees, there has always been a class divide between the highly-paid workers and the poorly-paid ones. The strike, say analysts, was a victory for both classes, yet for different reasons. And most agree that one clear loser in the strike was the rule of law, which took a beating from both the Histadrut and the Finance Ministry. Peretz comes out of the strike

with greatly enhanced stature both within the 700,000-member labor federation, and within the Labor Party, which he also represents as an MK. His authority as Histadrut secretary-general has been vulnerable because he was not elected to the post, but rather inherited it from his predecessor, Labor MK Haim Ramon. Peretz hopes to put an end to any challenges in next June's Histadrut elections, and his management of the strike may have served to scare off all his potential opponents, the most prominent of whom is Gesher MK Maxim Levy. "Today running against against

Amir Peretz has emerged as a major electoral asset for the Labor party. Yaakov Neeman will be weaker as he enters budget negotiations. And the big loser? The rule of law, Larry Derfner reports

Amir Peretz for the leadership of the Histadrut is like running against Roni Milo [for mayor] in Tel Aviv." Kristal said.

On the political front, Kristal says the success of the strike makes Peretz, a Moroccan immi-grant from the Negev development town of Sderot, a major electoral asset: a powerful politician with a social and economic message that appeals to working-class Sephardi voters.

"Labor hasn't had such a personality in its ranks in a long time. David Levy used to fill this role

for the Likud, but he's since left it behind [to become foreign ministerl. Now the tables are turned -Labor has Peretz, and the Likud doesn't have an answer to him," Kristal noted.

For Neeman, the story is reversed. He has enjoyed a reputation as a super-negotiator who was above party politics. But the strike has brought him back down to earth," says Kristal, who adds that Neeman is now weakened as he enters the government's budget negotiations. This will encourage Gesher, led by David Levy, in its

demands for funding for social programs. "Peretz showed David Levy bow to negotiate with Neeman, and Levy doesn't intend to come back with less than Peretz got," Kristal notes.

Neeman is an attorney, not an economist. He came: into the Netanyahu cabinet in his desired capacity as justice minister, but lost that post when he was indicted on charges that he subomed a witness in the Arych Deri case. After he was acquitted, and Dan Meridor resigned as finance minister, Neeman took Meridor's

place. He now finds himself haggling day and night with union leaders. This is not what he wants to do," said Kristal.

If Neeman is as frustrated in the the strike, Kristal said, "he could resign at the first opportunity. If Bibi tells him to give in on this, give in on that, Neeman won't allow himself to be mocked." And if Neeman resigns, it would be a severe blow to Netanyahu. "Since Avigdor Lieberman quit, Neeman is the only 'wise counselor' Netanyahu's got left, except for maybe [cabinet secretary] Danny Naveh," Kristal noted.

One of the questions raised by the strike, and by the Histadrut's overall activities over the decades, was whether the labor federation was acting equally on behalf of all its members, including the lowpaid, low-skilled clerks and factory workers, or whether it was principally concerned with its wellpaid, well-protected employees in large, powerful locals like the Israel Electric Corp., Bezeq and El Al. This question became more pointed in the general strike as it was the leaders of the strong locals who were pushing Peretz hardest to take a militant stand.

According to Prof. Dan Jacobson of Tel Aviv University's Department of Labor Studies, the central principle of the strike protecting the pension benefits of

workers who do not get their pensions from the state budget, but rather from private provident funds — was of interest only to the "middle-class and lower-class" budget negotiations as he was in among Histadrut workers, because employees of the strong locals enjoy pensions from the state budget. In this sense, the strike worked mainly for the benefit of the lower-paid Histadrut mem-

bers, said Jacobson. The compromise reached on the pension adjustment agreement signed by Peretz and former finance minister Avraham Shohat in May 1996 — an agreement Neeman was forced into honoring - also worked to the benefit of lower-paid employees, Jacobson

noted. The leaders of the powerful locals were interested less in the substance of the strike and more in its larger significance. "Winning the strike meant that the Histadrut was alive and kicking," he said.

In decades past, the Histadrut had indeed been chiefly concerned with its well-heeled workers, Jacobson maintained. But the strike also won the labor federation recognition as a partner in talks with the Finance Ministry on such issues of concern to lowincome groups as child welfare allowances, health care, minimum wage and unemployment policy.

See WINNERS, Page 22

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Movement is the best clue to the activity of the nervous system. In order to make a movement the nervous system must be induced to send impulses that will contract the necessary muscles in the right patterns and in the right sequences in time.

When we are born, our voluntary movements are limited almost exclusively to crying and contracting joint muscles. As we develop, we learn from experience to roll, crawl, sit, walk, speak, run, jump, balance, and whatever else we do as adults. The major problem is differentiation of movements: for example, the ring finger will remain clumsy unless we play an instrument or make a special effort to learn to move it at will. We end up by bringing the contraction to a more or less perfectly differentiated voluntary activity; there must be a real impediment to make us aware of doing something wrong.

The Feldenkrals Method for bringing about an Improved maturation of the nervous system uses the reversibility relationship of the muscular and nervous systems. The development of the human brain becomes effective by its growth after birth and is directed and moulded through personal individual experience. The result is an extraordinary opportunity to build up a body of learned responses, but there is also the danger of going wrong through learning the wrong responses. To break this victous dirdle, we have to improve our ability to differentiate and the rest is a question of experience, practice, time and attention.

As we become aware of what we are doing, and not what we say or trink we are doing, the way to improvement is wide open to us.

The Feldenkrals Method begins with movement in the lying position, to facilitate the breaking down of habitual muscular patterns. The habitual pressures on the sole of the feet and the skeletal joints are suppressed, the nervous system does not receive the habitual stimuti due to gravitation and the efferent impulses are not linked into the habitual patterns. After the lessons, on returning to receive the habitual stimuli, one is surprised to discover a changed response to them.

To facilitate such a result, the lessons are done as slowly and as pleasantly as possible, without any strain or pain. The main object is not training in what one knows, but to discover new unknown reactions in oneself and thereby learn a better, more congenial way of acting.

It is important for the movements to be so light that after 15 or 20 repetitions the initial effort should drop to practically nothing more than the thought of it. This produces a maximum sensitivity in the person and enables him to detect minute changes in the impulses transmitted to the muscles and the change in alignment of the different parts of the body.

in the end one should improve to the point where one feels that one's body is hanging lightly from the head, so that the feet do not stamp on the ground, and the body glides when moving. The head should in the end turn with a smoothness unequaled by the most perfect man-made mechanism.

Training a body to perfect all the possible forms and configurations of its members changes nor only the strength and flexibility of the skeleton and muscles, but makes a profound change in the self-image and the quality of direction of the self.

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abor ebairman Ehud Barak plans to coovene his party's

MKs and other higher-ups this morning to ask them for for-

giveness, for any unintentional slights he may have committed -

much as he apologized to Sephardi

expected to smooth ruffled feath-

ers in Labor and end the unpleas-

antness he faced at the party con-

vention which took Barak by great

surprise this week, according to a

Barak had expected oo hitches at

the single-day convention last

Sunday in Tel Aviv. He has had his

share of scrapes since he took over

Labor in the summer, but bas

always managed to prevail. He

had had oo inkling that anything

would be different this time

From Barak's point of view the

earlier convention sittings were

success stories. In the first he

managed to prevent his predeces-

sor and nemesis Shimon Peres

from assuming the unprecedented

title of party president. While he was accused of being mean-spirit-

ed and incapable of magnanimity

in victory, Barak got away with it

The second session in Netivot

had oo business at all oo the agen-

da. It was merely a background

prop that gave Barak a stage to

recite bis apology to the

Sephardim and make a pitch for

The actual business was left for

the third conventioo sessioo this

week, when Barak's pet plan of

putting a director-general of his

own choosing in charge of party

affairs was supposed to come up

for approval, Delegates were also

expected to rubber stamp a choice

of 1,250 delegates for the party's

Barak made sure well in

advance that not a single contro-

versial issue would come up for a

vote. He oever suspected that

deciding the composition of the

central committee would become

What happened this week,

according to MK Dalia Itzik, "is

no new development," alleging

that Barak bas angered many by

behaving for months as if he owns

"The problem is that he had not...

was pent up in Labor People are

walking around with acute beliy-

aches, but Barak doesn't care.

Perhaps he just is oot interested in

what people around him think,

feel and say. He is not attuned,"

says Itzik.
"One of the most essential pre-

requisites of a democratic leader is

that he hear others around him. If

be holds on to power, insensitive

to everyone, then he is oo democ-

"Barak's problem may stem

from his years in the military. He

took off his uniform not so long

ago and theo eotered politics with

Rabin "practically begged Barak

to join the government and he has

been spoiled ever since. He won the party leadership without much

viable competition and it all per-

rat," she says.

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See WINDERS, PAPE





Labor chairman Ehud Barak comes under stinging criticism in his party for his one-man-show style of leadership, Sarah Honig reports

The General under fire

voters for the alleged wrong-doings of the party's founding haps went too quiekly and easily for him," she says.
"In short," ltzik continues, The "make nice" tactie is

"Barak climbed up the ladder too fast to master the fine art of demoerade conduct.

"What happened at this convention is that people finally dared to express what was building up inside them all along. Labor's politicians have crossed the psychological barrier which thus far bas kept them from attacking Barak. Up to oow be has been placed on a pedestal and protected from much obvious criticism because he was seen as Labor's last great hope. Nothing was to be uttered or done that might chip away at his luster."

Itzik does not entirely discouot the theory that Labor members may have been emboldened to

"One of the most essential prerequisites of a democratic leader is that he hears others around him. If he holds on to power, insensitive to everyone, then he is no democrat"

-MK Dalia Itzik

lash out at Barak after the mutiny waged against Prime Mioister Binyamin Netanyahu at the recent Likud convention.

Privately many in Labor admit there is a connection. Their convention proceedings were so dull that few delegates occupied their sears at the Mann Auditorium. Most roamed the halls and mingled in the lobby, stifling prodigious yawns, and made comparisoos with the action-packed Likud productioo. Although they did oot yearn for the plot line, many envied the Likud's irrepressibility and folksiness, even if those proceedings were volatile, visible

"In Labor the idea is to let pressure accumulate under a tightly sealed lid, out of sight and earshot. Maybe this is why we are left with the image of a party of staid functionaries and hacks," as MK Ophir Pines put it.

a red-carpet welcome," Itzik adds.
The late prime minister Yitzhak into thinking that they can do as they please, that we are so tame and docile that we will not resist. "They can summon 4,000 peo-

This teods to delude our leaders

ple to a sham convection and we

will all willingly and obediently play along as so much window dressiog. We will all play the parts of extras which Barak has scripted for us and will be grateful to him for these roles," says Pines.

In his view, the very fact that "Barak called a convention which was supposed to automatically ratify all he wanted, without dealing with anything contentious betrays

"He needed us only to applaud and approve. This week brought no departures from the way he was running the party up until now. The convention was just such a surreal absurd gathering that it was like the straw that broke the backs of most of us.

"We felt toyed with to be summoned to a convention, which, in the final analysis, was nothing but a total waste of time. We came to the boring function, which had no purpose and no message. Thousands of people were called out to say and do nothing. Despite all that is happening in the Likud, we aren't taking off. It would be a dreadful mistake for us to sit and wait for the Likud to selfdestruct'

Labor's in-house political scien-tist MK Shevah Weiss, a former Knesset Speaker, agrees that "what is expected now is for Labor to seize the opportunity afforded by the Likud's internal troubles. But this is easier said than done. Barak's announcement of a fund-raising drive for the campaign of '98 is oot enough. The wish itself will not advance

The fact is that while the Likud and Labor are very different in temperament, many of the same problems plague both. The basic ill must be ascribed to the change wrought by the direct elections system for prime minister," Weiss maintains.

Weiss contends that "this disastrous American import has radically changed that relationship between a party and its leader. Our old parliamentary system, which shaped our political thinking and expectations, is one in which the leader arises from the party and remains accountable to it. We now have a system in which we oo longer deal with parties that have leaders. We are now encountering a situation in which a leader also has a party. He is elected in a separate primary and must wage a separate campaign for premier-

The party may have different interests and sometimes the divergent interests are even inimical to each other. For the prime ministerial candidate his party may well become either a pesky encum-brance or a damaging liability. "The individual leaders' person-

alities aside, this is what accounts for the basic friction between Netanyahu and the Likud and between Barak and Labor. These leaders," Weiss observes, "are often beset by their parties and wish they could get them out of

This is precisely the state of affairs which MK Ephraim Sneh bad in mind this week when he called on Barak to set up "a leadership panel of at least a dozen MKs. Even the primary winner cannot run for the premiership on his own, sweeping his party under

"If Barak has a withered, weakened, meaningless party behind him, he will fail, regardless of all the bravado and confident rhetoric. Barak is not all-knowing and he is not infallible. He will lose if he doesn't learn to consult and to accept advice.

"So far be has not asked for input and he has not listened when counseled," Sneh continues. "Our faction has seven MKs who are ma'abarot alumni. Barak went

entered the auditorium. In contrast to Barak, he won standing ova-tions and palpable affection despite the controversial nature of his message, which was explicit support for a Palestinian state and a withdrawal from the Golan Nothing which Barak told the

delegates generated any excite-ment. In the lobby, they were all up in arms about the alleged oefarious conspiracies of Ronni Bondi, Barak's right-hand man, who was popularly dubbed at the convention as Avigdor Lieberman's

Bondi tried to pack the central committee with Barak loyalists, it was charged. To relieve some tension, Barak ended op agreeiog to expand the committee to 2,000 members.

Barak's single victory at the session was on the director- general issue but his majority was so slim that presidium chairman David Liba'i pronounced it a loss. Only 665 delegates participated in the vote and Barak's propos-



and apologized to the Sephardim without sounding them out. At best he ignores the party. At times he is disdainful of it."

MK Uzi Baram is regarded in Labor as at least nomically Barak's No. 2 man, and is cited as one of the most loyal to him, but Baram does not dispute Soeb's

"This party has no real leadership and that is our basic problem. Barak must set up some sort of a leadership team because as things stand now there is no one who has anything good to say about him. A handful of MKs may rise to his defense but all they eveo ask is that he oot be targeted for criti-

They too can't find much to compliment. Wherever I travel around the country I hear harsh criticism of Barak and, alas, I can't find much to say in his favor," Baram says.

These are the reasons wby Barak was given such a cool reception at the convection, the disgruntled MKs say.

His entry into the hall failed to move the delegates and his speeches elicited little applause. A Barak aide argues that."this is not the Likud, so you can't expect a rousing rendition of Ehud King of Israel.

Yet Laborites too know bow to exhibit emocion, a fact which was well in evideoce when Peres margin. Liba'i declared the vote void. Barak could not even object. Things plainly did not go his way.

"If after all this, Barak still sees oothing wrong in his relations with his own party, then he is an amazing man who has thoroughly fooled himself or aims to fool os. Disavowing reality will not change the facts on the ground," says MK Haggai Merom. Barak's

most uncompromising critic. Merom denies being motivated by a personal vendetta over Barak foiling his bid to be elected party secretary-general.

True I sought the job but Barak loaded the odds in Ra'anan Cohen's favor because he is a Sephardi and a yes-man. I lack both qualifications. But the job will be devoid of content anyhow if he somebow manages to appoint a director-general to lord it over all of us," Merom says. "Barak knows how to manipulate and his ability as a double-dealer should not be dismissed just because he is so new to politics.

The fact that he is new makes him vulnerable because no one in the party looks up to him as we did to Rabin and Peres. He must learn to treat us as equals," Merom adds.

Even MK Avraham Shohat, the former finance minister whom Barak put in charge of his campaign fund-raising drive, thinks that "if so many people say the

same thing, there must be someconsensus in Labor is that the two thing to it. I spoke to Barak about are trying to secure niches near the setting up a leadership team and center of power. he told me that if he selects a Ramon especially bas been dozen men...he will have hooored counseling Barak about how to

them, but they will actually have

little to do, [since] we are in the

opposition. While there will be 12

massaged egos, everyone else will be deeply offended."

he has no choice and that the

leader must be able to cope with

the coveted inner sanctum,"

ioner circle are two of Barak's

most acerbic erstwhile foes - MK

Ramon who crossed swords with

Barak in the 1996 elections cam-

paign which they managed togeth-

They were the only two to

admonish other faction members

My answer to Barak was that

handle the party. The word in Labor is that the press conference early in the week, in which Barak declared that he is oo dictator, was Ramon's idea. The prediction in the party is

that Ramon will prescribe more of the same for today's let-bygonesthe frustrations of those left out of be-bygones session. But Barak ... must "engage in more than hon-Shohat says.

Those who appear certain to avoid exclusion from Barak's geyed lip-service," Merom warns. There must be a real sincere overhaul in his attitude to the party.'

"He must honestly accept that Yossi Beilin who ran against him this is not a one-man operation in the primary and MK Haim and that we are oot despised underlings. Otherwise his disingenuous blandishments will be every bit as ludicrous and lacking in credibility as his questionable apology to the Sephardim, when he bravely beat the breasts of for their anti-Barak onslaught. The deceased generations."

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# Mixed messages from Teheran

Iran spared no effort to stake out a new image of respectability at this week's Islamic summit. But the new image turned out to be blurred, writes Abraham Rabinovich

Tisitors calling on the late East Asia to North Africa.

The new image turned of ntion, Ayatollah Khomeini, were revolution, received in a tiny, spartan room - a setting befitting the head of a revolutionary movement which had abjured the glittering trap-pings of modernity for true faith.

The guests arriving for this week's Islamic conference in

Teheran were received by his successor, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in an atmosphere of lavishness that evoked comparisons to the most hedonistic conjurings of the late

In the two months preceding the conference, thousands of engineers and workmen working round the clock in four shifts constructed six luxury hotels and a magnificent conference hall. In addition, to accommodate visiting beads of state they restored palaces belonging to the shah and his family to a standard said to be even more luxurious than the original. Iran's leading architects were employed in the project for which the Iranian parliament had approved a massive budget of 250

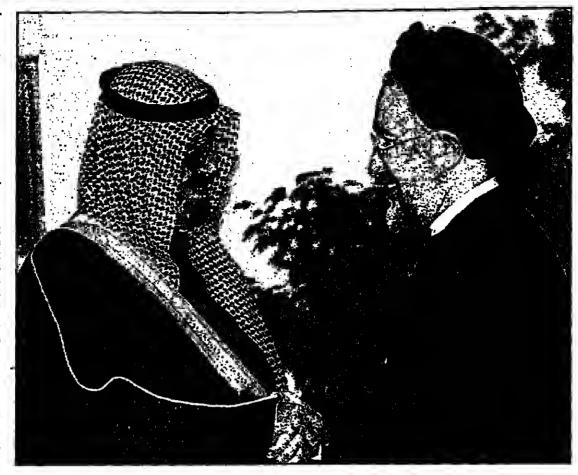
For long a pariah state, even to much of the Arab world because of its use of state terror and its presumption of Islamic leadership, Iran spared uo effort this week to stake out a new image of respectability by hosting a conference which drew representatives from 55 Islamic countries from

The new image turned out to be striking but blurred. President Mohammed Khatami, the white hope of those who seek a turning to moderation in Iran, delivered a remarkable speech calling for an "Islamic civil society" and saying that that Islam had much to learn from the West. However, a contrary message was delivered by Supreme Leader Khameini who focused on the "global arrogance" of the West.

'Until now it's all been cosmetics, not substance" said Hebrew University Professor Emanuel Sivan of the conference. Iran has not resolved any of its disputes even with its Arab neighbors, including disputes with the Emirates over islands in the Gulf. It has not, Sivan noted, revoked the death sentence against author Salman Rushdie, nor responded to signals from European countries that imprisoned Iranian terrorists would be released if Teheran publicly pledges never to repeat its assassination attempts on foreign soil.

The conflicting nature of the speeches made by Khameini and Khatami reflected deep differences within Iranian society - revolutionary zeal versus intellectual upenness. The one theme the two leaders could agree on was hostility towards Israel. Even Khatami attacked "the racist, aggressive and viulent nature of the Zionist

Prof. David Menashri, whu



Iranian President Mohammed Khatami (right) with Saudi Foreign Minister Crown Prince Abdullah at the Islamic summit.

holds the Nazarin Chair for Modern Iranian Studies at Tel Aviv University, notes that "ani-mosity towards Israel and the US has become such an important symbol that any retreat could affect the prestige of the revolu-tion." Khatami did indeed soften the rhetoric towards the US but Israel continued to serve the Iranian leadership as an unfaded

Nevertheless, the growing internal debate between moderates and conservatives in Iran, Israeli experts agree, may lead to changes

that will ultimately affect attitudes towards Israel as well.

There are no basic differences between Israel and Iran - not strategically, politically or histori-cally," says Menashri. "The Iranian regime has tried to turn the Palestinian issue into a major symbol of the revolution and a rallying point. But now that the Palestinians are negotiating with Israel there are questions being asked in Iran about the wisdom of trying to be more pious than Arafat. There is a soulsearching process under way. We have to wait and see how this

Reuven Merhay, counselor at the Israeli embassy in Teheran from 1974 until the downfall of the shah in 1978, notes the growing disaffection among broad sections of the Iranian population towards the regime uf the clerics. "Khatami was elected mainly by women and young people," he points out. There is unrest even among senior clerics like Grand Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, one of the fathers of the revulution, who was placed under house arrest after calling for an end to clerical rule. A leading Islamic philosopher, Abdel Karim Sorush, likewise incurred the regime's wrath when

he called for separation uf mosque

"All this is happening," says Merhay, "against the background of a conference, including 30 heads of state, that nu one five years ago thought could take place in Iran. Certainly not with this kind of internal controversy going on." Israeli experts relate to the prospects for change in Iran with varying degrees of hope. "The expectation is that liberalization within Iran will eventually lead to changes in foreign policy as well," says Sivan. "But that's a long-term affair and I think exaggerated hopes have been placed on

Khatami. Methav believes there is room for "cautious optimism," although Menashri says he is unaware of any signal that Israel has received from Teheran that would encourage hopes for change. "But the situation obliges Israel to closely follow developments without bias and if necessary to reevaluate its policies." There can be little doubt that Israel will be observing Iran from now on not just as a patron of Islamic militancy and a potential nuclear threat but as a society that may be searching for

## A 'moderate' voice

"The absence of

thought which in

questioning

leads to the

absence of

turn leads to

inevitable pas-

sivity and subju-

gation vis-a-vis

others"

Excerpts from the speech by Iranian president Mohammed Khatami at the opening of the Islamic Summit Conference this week in Teheran:

ur predicament is that the Islamic Ummah (nation), once a flag-bearer of knowledge, thought and civilization, has in recent centuries elapsed into weakness and backwardness and worse still has even failed, due to the consequent painful state of passivity vis-a-vis the ostentatious dominant civilization of the time, to properly utilize the fruits of its civilization. Our centuries-old passivity is the ontcome of the decline of a once-shining humane civilization whose achievements and remnants are still praiseworthy and to which the dominant world civilization is truly indebted.

Today, the replication of the old civilization is neither possible, for its time is

long gone, nor desirable even if it were possible. Civilizations continue to live as long as they possess the capacity to respond to the ever-renewing onestions and the ever-changing needs of man, otherwise they doomed

demise. The questions and needs of man in our time are in many ways different from

those of our predecessors. Our passivity in recent centuries in the face of Western civilization which is itself a natural response to the quest of Western man - is due to the fact that for various reasons we have ceased to question. The absence of questioning leads to the absence of thought which in turn leads to inevitable passivity and subjugation vis-avis uthers.

The people whu created one of the most glorious civilizations in history still enjuy the potential to create another provided that they lend themselves to reason and reflection.

We will only succeed in moving forward along this path if we posss the requisite capacity to utilize the positive scientific, technological and social accomplishments of Western civilization - a stage we must inevitably gu through to reach the future. Painful and bitter though we find

the passivity and backwardness of the Moslem countries, nevertheless, the mere happy reminder that we can transform our destiny is a matter of elation. We must dedicate ourselves to the realization of the "Islamic civil society" in our respective countries. [This] is fundamentally different from the "civil society" that is rooted in Greek philosophical thinking and Roman political tradition. The two, however, are not necessarily in conflict. We should never be oblivious to judicious acquisition of the positive accom-plishments of Western civil soci-

Taking abode in the "common Islamic home" does not mean regression, withdrawal from the modern world or seeking conflict with others. On the contrary, it is only after such a return to the common identity that we can live in peace with other peoples and

> ment [in an Islamic civil society] is the people. Our civil society is not a society in which only Muslems are entitled rights and are considered citizens. The rejection dumination means : rejection and force. duplicity in relations with uther nations

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replacement with logic and the principle of mutual respect in international relations.

History shows that no peace has ever embraced success without justice and consideration for the aspirations of the people concerned. As the crisis in the Middle East has made clear, genuine peace can be established only through the realization of the legitimate rights uf the Palestinian people, including the inalienable right to self-determination, return of refugees, liberation of the occupied territories, in particular al-Quds [Jerusalem].

It is a fact, though, that the hegemonic, racist, aggressive and viulent nature of the Zionist regime, amply manifested in systematic and gross violation of the international law, pursuit of state terrorism and developments of weapons of mass destruction. seriously threatens peace and security in the region.

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#### MIDDLE ISRAEL



By AMOTZ ASA-EL

fter watching helplessly while a succession of fiascos tamished our most prestigious institutions, the false-information scandal finally can offer some of the relief, pride and hope

which we have grown to miss. In the nightmarish year which is drawing to a close we saw two soldier-laden IAF helicopters collide with each other; the GSS groping in the dark to identify a few terrorists' bodies; the Shayetet 13 naval commando unit losing in one battle more warriors than it had since its creation; and the Mossad flunking it big-time while trying to eliminate a pedestrian on a Jordanian sidewalk.

Understandably, one is tempted to add to this depressing checklist our once glorious spy agency's apparent failure to notice that a substance it had been gulping for two decades was actually toxic.

And yet, disheartening though the phenomenon he represents may be, at the end of the day

A VIEW FROM NOV

Yehuda Gil's assessments were dismissed, first by prime minister Shimon Peres who didn't buy the

now-disgraced agent's reading into Syria's political aims, then by Defense Minister Yitzhak Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who rejected Gil's exegesis of Syrian military moves. Ever shrouded by well-molded James Bondian veneers of charm, courage, wit and violence, spies have traditionally set laymen's imaginations on fire and swept romantics off their feet.

And yet, even legendary spies from Dutch dancer Mata Hari, who in World War 1 milked, fed and slept with a host of Allied and German officials until she was shot by the French, to "Cicero," the servant in Britain's Turkish Embassy who leaked to Germany the plans for D-Day in return for a hefty payment (in counterfeit bills) - never changed the course of history.

In fact, spies have time and again failed to see the forest beyond the trees. Even the scoat contingent dispatched to Canaan by the wandering Israelites erred colossally in its majority's report that the Promised Land was impregnable and prone to "eat up the inhabitants thereof."

IN THE winter of 1988, I attended a senior intelligence researcher's lecture at the Foreign Ministry. The subject was Mikhail Gorbachev's

"This whole perestroika [economic reform] business is a PR campaign. he assured us. "And as for Yewish emigration, the floodgates are emigration, the floodgates are nowhere near bursting open, and at any rate I'd be exaggerating if I said that the overall potential we're talking about exceeds the neighborhood of 100,000 people." One must now blush at the thought of just how soon and how grandly those sweeping statements were proven unfounded. Similarly, US spies failed to foresee the attack on Peaul-Harbor.

foresee the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Mossad had no inkling of the Syrian-Egyptian attack in 1973, the KGB scoffed at the Islamic obstacle in Afghanistan, Britain's intelligence didn't anticipate the Falklands invasion, the GSS did not predict the intifada, and the CIA failed to forecast Khomeini's rise to power, not to mention com-munism's wholesale collapse.

These failures of insight are so glaring, abysmal and common that decision-makers would do well to refrain from lending an ear to intelligence services' pretentious analyses about where the enemy – let alone the world - is bound. Instead, they should dwell exclusively on the tactical, and let the broader picture be assembled by

Sleeping with the enemy

real scholars.

The day Konstantin Chemenko died in 1985, Hebrew University Sovietologist Amnon Sela gave us a lecture on the history of the Red Army. Asked where the USSR was bound, he answered cautiously. "If that Gorbachev guy gets the appointment, then it's a new beginning, whereby the Soviets' economic weaknesses will have to be treated amid increasingly open ethnic strife."

It was a modest intellectual's well-studied, and ultimately vindicated, insight, which quietly con-tradicted arrogant, budget-gobbling spy agencies which contended that the world would continue to be split along that dated East-West axis, which defined the Cold War era in which they were shaped.

Spies should be expected to tell

us how many tanks are lurking beyond that mountain ridge, what a certain individual's schedule looks certain individual's schedule looks like, or how a particular airport is guarded. They can also be good for kidnapping Adolf Eichmann or Mustafa Dirani, killing Fathi Shkaki or Abu Jihad, or stealing documents from US officials, as Jonathan Pollard did, or from the Kremlin, as the Mossad had done with Khrushchev's secret speech, which heralded his de-Stalinization

But when it comes to analyzing strategic orientations, sensing political shifts, deciphering mental codes, or detecting social undercurrents, spies are useless. The delicate surgery these assessments entail are not what these naturally rough-hewn guys were meant to do, and the pacific conclusions they may lead to might mean, for them, institutional extinction.

IT IS no coincidence that former Mossad agent Yitzhak Shamir, former CIA chief George Bush and former KGB boss Andrei Andropov ended up as failed national leaders. Shamir led Israel into the intifada by rejecting the London agreement with Jordan, Bush spent his time launching wars in Panama and Iraq while failing to realize that the vot-ers would judge him on the econo-my, and Andropov's cure for the USSR's sclerotic economy was to cut vodka production and have detectives herd pedestrians to work.

Apparently, spies tend to devel-op an us-and-them mindset that hampers their ability to under-stand domestic issues and leaves them confused in the face of changing realities. Good thing, then, that no one listened to the Mossad's insights into Syria's grand intentions; next time let's not even ask.

Ya'acov also gives us, via the

Latin Jacobus/Jacomus, the Anglo

James(on), Jamie (male and female), and Jim(my), the Spanish

and Portuguese Jaime (pro-

nounced Ha-ee-may), the Scottish

Hamish, and the Irish and Scots

A few other derivatives are the

French Jacques and Jacqueline; the

Italian Giacomo; and the Welsh

lago; the Comish Jago (Bloomsbury

Dictionary of First Names by Julia Cresswell, London, 1992).

Lawson has published a 70-page

Gaelic Seamps/Shamus/Seumas.

## **Dry Bones**



#### MOVIE REVIEW



By RABBI SHLOMO RISIGN

"Jacob thus came to his father at Mamre, at Kiryat Arba, better known as Hebron (Gen 35:27)

t which point in his life does Jacob reach maturi-L 1xty? One suggestion is that it happened the night he wrestled with the mysterious stranger and received the new appellation Israel, (32:29) But if so, why does it take three more chapters to his BIBLE nowed through Jacob father's house, chapters which as a father - and records the chalinclude the massacre of the residents of Shechem and the transgression of Reuben? The Jacob who prayed that God "return him in peace to his father's house" at the beginning of his journey (28:21) ought not have dallied so

long before returning home. I would suggest that maturity consists of two things: first of all. a proud sense of self identity and, secondly - but not second in importance - the ability to transcend filial relationships and sibling rivalries. Jacob's is the most carefully delineated of the patri-

archal personalities. In the first instance, Jacob had difficulty expressing his true personality. The Bible informs us: Esau was a man who knew how to (en)trap, a man of the fields; and Jacob was a wholehearted man, a dweller in tents." (Gen. 25:27) Whereas Jacob is naive and disingenuous, Esan is deceptive and fork-tongued; whereas Jacob is a student who labors to acquire knowledge, Esan is a

hunter who amasses objects.

The very next verse is the

source of much familial tragedy: "And Isaac loved Esan because the trap was in his mouth, and Rebecca loved Jacob." (25:28) Every child, no matter how old or accomplished, yearns for parental approval. Hence one can hardly blame Jacob for believing that if he were only more worldly, smooth of tongue and rich like Esau, perhaps his father would begin to love him more. From this perspective, Jacob's willingness to pose as Esau becomes much more understandable. It is now more understandable why Jacob sets out with such

alacrity for Laban; be hopes to

learn the "tricks of the trade."

This is the force behind the verse: "And Isaac sent Jacob, and he [Jacob] went to Padan Aram. to Laban the son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, mother of Jacob and Esau." (28:5) For Jacob, this is not only an escape from Esau; it is also - and primarily - a journey in search of his father's love. Jacob succeeds in out-Labaning Laban in the art of deception, and becomes a wealthy man. However, with the birth of his beloved Joseph and his desire that

his favored son attain spiritual heights, Jacob realizes that he is not Esau, that his fundamental personality is that of the whole-hearted student of Torah, and that he must be true to himself. Jacob is now ready to hear the Divine voice urging him to leave Laban. (31:13) He wrestles with a being that

our sages identify as the power or spirit of Esau; I would suggest that he successfully exorcises the dvbbuk of Esau that is threaten-

Through the eyes of a father

ing to overwhelm his personality,; and emerges as the individual Jacob - Israel, secure in his identity and goals. He is now able to give much of his material wealth to Esan and return "wbole" in identity to his birthplace. (33:18)

To his birthplace - but not yet to his father's house. Jacob is stillangered by the fact that his father still does not love him; he is also haunted with guilt and remorse over his act of deception. Therefore he is not yet ready to "return in peace to [his] father's

lenge of a paterfamilias. His sons Simeon and Levi deceive and embarrass him by killing the people of Shechem, but he cannot really blame his sons too much for doing to their father what he did to his father. Deborah, Rebekah's nursemaid, apparently helped raise Jacob, dies during the journey, Rebekah's name notably absent from the account. Is it possible that Jacob is now angry at his mother for having encouraged his deception, and this is the way the Bible hints at his feelings? And then Jacob's beloved wife Rachel dies in childbirth, in large measure owing to her lie regarding the bousehold idols she had

stolen from ber father's bome (chapter 35). But the most difficult incident is to follow: "And Reuben went and slept with Bilhah, his father's concubine." (35:22) Our Sages interpret this to mean that Reuben took Jacob's couch out of Bilhah's tent and placed it in his mother Leah's tent after the death of Rachel. In either case, Reuben committed a disgraceful act vis-avis his father.

The traditional biblical text provides for an empty space in the midst of the verse that records this incident, which then con-cludes "and the children of Jacob were 12." What is the meaning of the

space? Perhaps Jacob wept, in anger and frustration over his son's disrespect. He may even bave thought of banishing Reuben, of doing to his eldest son what Abraham did to Ishmael. But then perhaps he thought he shared in the guilt; after all, he had never given Reuben the love and approbation he should bave bestowed upon his firstborie Perhaps Reuben was crying out pain, at one and the same time displaying anger against has father and trying to become close er to him.

And at that moment Jacob see his relationship to Isaac, no through the eyes of a son, by through the eyes of a father. Yes his father made mistakes, but so has he, Jacob, made mistakes as a father. From this perspective, Jacob ceases to be angry at his father and understands how emotions can overcome logic in the familial context. Moreover, Jacob realizes how

important it is to keep the family ether, to forgive one's children and accept them despite their wrongdoings. And just as Jacob is ready to accept Simeon and Levi and even Reuben, he realizes that his father will be willing to accept him. Now lacob can return in peace to his father's house.

Shabbat Shalom

## How Israel earned that name



By MOSHE KOHN

The name Jacob/Ya'acov is one of many biblical names for which the Tanach gives or hints at a meaning.

God renames Patriarch Avram, Jacob's grandfather, "Avraham/ Abraham," because "I have made you the father/av of a multitude/ hamon of peoples" (Genesis 17:5).

Abraham and his wife, Sarah, in turn, name their son Yitzhak/Isaac, 'a name that is related to the root of laugh/laughter, the letters traddihet-kof. The Torah implies they so named him because Sarah laughed when she overheard the angel tell Abraham she would conceive at age 90 (Genesis 18:12), and because after giving birth to Isaac she said God had made her a laughingstock for bearing a child

at her age (Genesis 21:6). Isaac and his wife, Rebecca, in turn, name the younger of their twin sons Ya'acov/Jacob because, the Torah implies, when he and his twin brother, Esau, were born, his hand "had hold of Esan's heel" (Genesis 25:27). "Heel" in Hebrew is "akev." which is com-

The latter is also the root of "follow," reflecting Jacob's following Esau in being born. It is also the root of "detain," "deceive/deceit," "cheat," "crooked," and after Esau discovered that Jacob had received the blessing Isaac had intended for him, he remarked: "The name Ya'acov really fits him, for he twice cheated me: he took my

my blessing" (Genesis 27:38). In the Torah portion read in tomorrow morning's synagogue service (Genesis 32:4-36:43), Jacob acquires a new name.

birthright, and now he has taken

On the night before Jacob's reunion with Esau after more than two decades, an unidentified man appears and wrestles with him all night. Finally the mysterious stranger says: "Let me go, for dawn is breaking." Jacob says: "Fm not letting you go until you bless me."

The man asks him for his name, and he tells him: "Ya'acov." The man says: "No longer 'Ya'acov' sball your name be called, but 'Yisrael [Israel],' for you strove/sarita with God and

with people and prevailed." The man blesses him and leaves. Shortly afterwards, God appears to Jacob in a vision and repeats the mysterious stranger's declaration. Curiously, the Torah goes on to call him Ya'acov - as does the rest of the Tanach - as frequently as, if not more frequently than, they call him Yisrael. But "Children of Israel" became the name of the

ed. The classical Hebrew designations Am Yisrael/the People Israel and just Yisrael/Israel mean "the Jewish people" and not just the biblical or modern state of Israel or their denizens.

THE SURNAME Vaknin/Waknin, common among Jews from Morocco, is a Berber diminutive of the Hebrew Ya'acov. According to the Interior Ministry's Population Registry, 5,836 Israeli Jews bore this name in 1995, ranking it 57th among the 200 most common surnames in Israel listed in Avraham Ariel's Sefer Hashemot ("The Book of Names," Defense Ministry Publishing House, 1997). Ya'acov itself ranks 29th, with 7,604 bearers.

The first recorded "Vaknin" appears in the name of the rabbi/physician/poet Yosef ben Yehuda ben Shimon ben Vaknin (1160-1226), who was born at Ceuta, Morocco.

It is one of several score derivatives of or forms in which Ya'acov

Some other examples are Jacobso(e)n in the various Anglo-Saxon and Germanic dialects. bome by both Jews and non-Jews; Yakobovitch (Jacobowitz/ Jakobovits), Yakobovsky (Jacobowsky) and Yankelovitch/ wicz in the Slavic dialects; Hagopian in Armenian, borne by Jews and non-Jews; Yakovshvilli in Georgian; Jakobescu/Jakohovici Romanian; Ya'acobov(ff), mainly

reaches of the former Soviet Union (145th in Ariel's list); Ya'acobi (Jacoby/Jacobs: 178th). Several surprising and interest-ing derivatives are listed by Edwin Lawson, emeritus professor of psychology at the State University of New York at Fredonia and past president of the American Name Society, in a paper on "Jacob and His Sons: Their Impact on Hebrew

and Jewish Onomastics." He read the paper at the 25th Annual Names Institute in New York City last year, and it is to appear in the Athens-based Onomata journal. One of the derivatives he lists is the surname Kaufman(n). It means "buyer" in German, and is thought to indicate that its original bearers were merchants. According to Benzion Kaganoff's Dictionary of

Jewish Names and Their History (NY, Schocken, 1977), however, it really stems from Ya'acov via Yakovman, through Yakofman The Jewish surname Kafka also stems from Ya'acov, via the diminntive Koppel, through Kopke and Kapke. Koppel also gives us such names as Kopeloff

and Kopelovitch(witz). Another interesting byproduct is the surname Wurm/Worm(s), This is inspired by Isaiah 41:13-14: "...I, God, your god, am holding your hand, saying to you, 'Fear

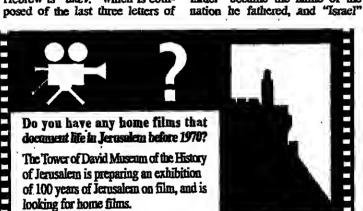
not ... you worm Jacob...' Another is Tam, inspired by Genesis 25:27: "...Jacob was a tam [simple, innocent, quiet] person, a

annotated bibliography on "Some Jewish Personal Names" in the. recently published These Are the Names (Ramat Gan, Bar-Ilan University Press). This contains nine of the 22 papers delivered at the First International Conference on Jewish Onomassics beld at Barllan four years ago, and was co-edited by Bar-Ilan history professor Aaron Demsky, Dr. Yosef Reif

and Prof. Yosef Tabory. In an article on "Names and No-Names in Ruth," Demsky concludes that the author of the Book of Ruth, by his choice of names, "has skillfully developed a historical tradition about [King] David's ancestors into a story of human kindness, transforming a tale of personal tragedy into a story of national significance with universal implications for the

fellowship of humanity." comments moshe@jpost.co.il.

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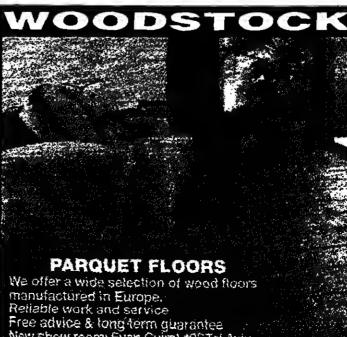
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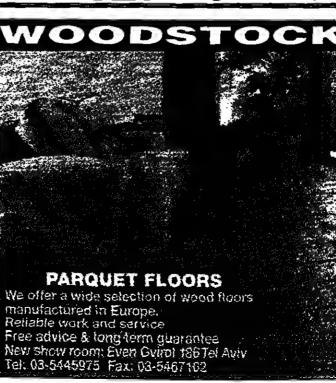
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صكذا من الأمل

# A new Anne takes the stage

Broadway's 'The Diary of Anne Frank' is more Jewish and more sombre than the earlier version, writes Marilyn Henry

nne Frank returned to Broadway last week, and a a friend of mine immediately bought tickets to take her young son. He will meet an Anne with a profoundly different message from that of her predecessor on stage and screen, the Anne that I

met more than 30 years ago.

The Diary of Anne Frank has been revived as a play, based on the latest version of the journal of the accession of the journal of the precocious Jewish girl who, with seven others, spent two years hiding in an attic in Amsterdam before they were deported to a concentration camp. All but Otto Frank, Anne's father, died.

The revival was born after the 1995 publication of the "definitive edition" of Anne Frank's diary. This edition added a substantial amount of intimate material that had been excised by Otto Frank from the earlier version, which was first published in Dutch in 1947

ARULIK

OP A SECRET

AGENCY!



Israeli-born actress Natalie Portman in the new Broadway production of 'The Diary of Anne

the original 1955 script by Frances

Goodrich and Albert Hackett, was

a saccharine character who was

only minimally Jewish. She was

and translated into 56 languages. The staged new "adaptation" of her diary, after a 50-year hiatus, conveys a character who is fuller and far more thoughtful. This play seems less a chronicle of life in the secret annex than the story of an unusual girl coming of age in extraordinary circumstances.

portrayed as an inspirational, idealistic teenager whose enduring message to theater- and moviegoers was an impossibly optimistic belief that "in spite of everything. people are really good at heart." The Anne of my generation, of

The generation meeting the 1997 Anne, as written by Wendy Kesselman, finds a burdened child who is keenly aware of the horrors committed just beyond the attic. "I feel wicked sleeping in a warm bed when my friends are at the mercy of the cruelest monsters ever to walk the earth - and all because they are Jews," says

by DOSH

sanitized the ethnic background of the eight Jews hiding in the attic, the Kesselman play is emphatically Jewish.

revealing them.

Fragments of Judaica occur at nearly regular intervals. In one especially powerful scene, when the Franks and van Daans arrive at the attic and remove their coats. Anne rips the yellow star from her black sweater. But a shadow of the star remains, its exaggerated image seared into the faded cloth.

Anne, who is beautifully played by an Israeli-born actress, Natalie

Portman, the 16-year-old grand-

daughter of Auschwitz survivors.

This is a significant and gratify-

ing difference: less optimism,

more realism. But it is not enough

to carry the play. No play, of

course, can do justice to the diary, but this one tries to force too much

material into two acts. The effect

often seems like a smorgasbord of

one-liners that hint at profound

thoughts and situations without

Unlike the earlier script, which

"I feel the suffering of millions."

In the Hanukka scene, the characters sing a hearty version of "Rock of Ages" in a heavy Ashkenazi Hebrew, not the generic holiday song favored in the original play. Peter van Daan says that when the war is over he wants to be Christian, while Anne tells him that he will always be lewish. The play even dips into Zionism when, in a moment of fantasy about the possibility of a life after the secret annex, where they hid between June 12, 1942, and August 1, 1944, Anne's sister, Margot, says she would like to be a nurse in Palestine.

With these touches, the adaptation of the diary is truer to its Iewish roots than the previous, Pulitzer Prize-winning version. But are all these references necessary? In one instance, the stage lights focus briefly to give a glimpse of a tallit-wrapped man praying in the attic. It is a moment that seems absolutely gramitous, as if Kesselman is trying to compensate for the ethnic cleansing of the previous version.

Kesselman also has been more faithful to Anne by including numerous references to her

The Stolen Legacy of Anne Frank, Magazine Page 20

blooming sexuality, many of which had been jettisoned by Otto Frank from the earlier version of the diary. But, their addition seems to be Kesselman's bow to political correctness, rather than a meaningful addition to the script. These tales of puberty seem to be just one more element to shoehom into the two acts.

The revival of the play was pre-ceded by controversy and challenge. In a scorching essay in The New Yorker two months ago, writer Cynthia Ozick fumed about "Who Owns Anne Frank?" Anne Frank's story, Ozick wrote in a spate of anger directed at the previous versions, has been "bowdlerized, distorted, transmuted, traduced, reduced; it has been infantilized, Americanized, homogenized, sentimentalized; falsified, kitschiffied, and, in fact, blatantly and arrogantly denied."

That didn't happen here. There are no uplifting parting lines to close this script and allow the audience to leave the theater in a hopeful mood.

Instead, the play ends in a tragic juxtaposition of contrasts: When the Nazis barge in, Anne, Margot and Peter Van Daan are in another room, happily gorging on fresh strawberries. It is their laughter that betrays them to the Nazis.

The Diary of Anne Frank is such an icon, and the story is so imperative, it seems vulgar to carp about the details of the new script. What matters is simply that Anne Frank is back on Broadway, where her story, our history, can reach my friend's young son and this new generation, who will welcome her and bid her an honest farewell.

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## Christmas queries

lthough there is little evidence of Christmas in Israel, Let it not be said that Israelis are not conscious of it. Elizabeth Scholes, first secretary, and Louise Miller, information assistant at the British Embassy, can testify to that Last Christmas, despite a message on the embassy switchboard explicitly directing British citizens in dire straits to emergency numbers they could call. Scholes received several phone calls from Israelis wanting to know when shops reopened in London after Christmas. This year, Miller has already received countless calls from Israelis wanting to know the dates of Christmas sales.

IT WON'T be an auction, but it will bring in a lot of money. One of the largest gatherings of royals in New York is expected at Sotheby's this Monday at a gala champagne reception and dinner to benefit the Mentor Foundation, an independent privately funded. an independent, privately funded, apolitical organization established to reduce the demand for drugs among the world's young people. Mentor raises money and transfers knowledge to enable other organizations to operate more effectively "to help the helpless." Among those attending will be Queen Silvia of Sweden, Queen Noor of Jordan, Crown Prince Henri of Luxembourg, Crown Prince Felipe of Spain, Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz Al Sand, Prince Dmitri of Yugoslavia, Crown Prince Pavlos of Greece and Crown Princess Marie-Chantal Crown Princess Marie-Chantal of Greece. Chairing the glittering event is Mrs. Alfred Taubman, wife of the chairman of Sotheby's who, though not exactly a blueblood, is a royal of sorts. Prior to her marriage, she was known as Yehudit Mizrahi and was an Israeli beauty queen.

AFIER a nine-year absence in the US, actress Caroline Langford returned to Israel this week to explore some showbiz options. Langford has been living in Manhattan, where she operated a pet-care service. She opted to work with dogs rather than on the entertainment circuit because "I didn't want to start at the bottom of the ladder again. My ego wouldn't take it." In New York, said Langford, who is here with two-year-old daughter Daniella, people pay a lot to have their dogs walked every day. Langford didn't walk the dogs berself but had bired helpers to exercise her canine clientele. Now, Langford say, she's definitely going back into showbiz.

QUITE a number of newcomers have joined the local

diplomatic community. Among them is Andrew Kealy CMG, who two days ago took up his appointment as British consul-general in Jerusalem, succeeding Richard Dalton. This is Kealy's fourth posting in the region, having served in Baghdad, Kuwait and Tripoli. His most recent appointment. however, was on home turf. He just spent two years as

Dolly Parton, coming apart at the seams head of the Foreign

and Commonwealth Office's Aviation and Maritime Department in London. Before that he was director of trade promotion at the British Embassy in Paris.

WHEN Cypriots and Greeks get together, you can expect the dust to fly. At least that's what happened this week at a dinner at the Hyatt Hotel Jerusalem where the new ambassador for Cyprus, Euripides Evriviades, and

Greek Consul-General George Marcantonatos kicked up their heels in a lively display of tradi-tional Greek dancing. The diplo-mats, who were attending a dinner hosted by the Cyprus Toulisur Board, maintained their decorum for the longest possible time but



Robin Andrew Kealy, the new British consul-general



Jeanette Yehudayan-Rethstein returns to Persia through song

once nearly everyone else in the room got up to join the circle, they dispensed with convention and proved to be even more tal-ented than the professional dancers flown in for the occasion.

MUSIC is the best medicine according to pharmacologist Jeanette Yelundayan-Rothstein who, at a national convention of Leumit health fund pharmacists in Ramat Gan, provided the entertainment. Bom in Teheran, Rothstein, who at the age of 12 came to Israel alone and was educated at Kfar Hassidim and the Hebrew University, distanced herself from her Persian background until after her marriage. In 1985, during a year's stay in West Africa with her husband, the music of her child-hood caught up with her, and this started the process of reconciliation. A talented singer, she began collecting, classifying, studying and performing different types of Persian

music. She has appeared with her Shiraz band at numerous festivals and on radio and television. When the opportunity to perform for her professional peers presented itself, she simply raised her voice in song.

HAIFA UNIVERSI-TY chairman Lord Jacobs, who was recently elevated to the peerage, was feted by his friends Ana and Eli Schalit of Caesarea, who held a reception in his honor attended by numerous industrialists, business executives, and

high-ranking academics. AFTER all the money she spent on ber plastic surgery, Dolly Parton is, to put it mildly, crestfallen. All that costly and careful reconstruction of face and body came apart at the seams, and that great facelift has plummeted. The eternal optimist, Parton believes that hers is a case in which Humpty Dumpty can be put together again.

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5 Recollected having been

6 How long does a boxing

9 Non-cicrical member of US

14 Appeal to Catherine for

approval (4) 15 Make situation worse for a

Virginia, in class (9)

17 Dame fell over cheese (4)

19 Eel sheds constructed

despite the dangers (8)

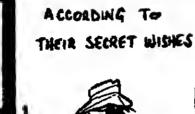
21 One who petitions for wild

Girl Guide initially,

match last? Too long! (5,4)

summoned again (8)

city is in charge (4)





#### CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

#### **ACROSS**

7 Quarrelling pets (3,3,3) 8 Number at Welsh resort (5) 10 Don Brook creation that is

turned by hand (8) 11 Sailor Bill uses half of the old counter (6)

12 Legendary works each containing identical Roman figures (4) 13 Spread all round city an area ... (8)

16 Drink cocktail, looking wooden (4)

18 The intellectual had for example double trouble (7) 20 Account of refined 17 at Yarmouth school (7)

22 Little woman left an alcoholic radical (4) 24 Note with regret not all are 26 Pop group making a come-back unchanged (4) 29 Island paradise wherein a number take a German title (6)

30 Thrash, thrash, thrash (8) 31 Way to acquire wood store .

32 Wendy Sade went berserk yesterday (9)

#### DOWN

1 Henry's on to a case which causes devastation (5) 2 It's senseless to dispose of

foreign capital (6) 3 Paradise so long as beasts don't get toothache (8)

4 Grave nothing! The French take a chance with it (7)

animal caught outside (8) 23 Cereal food that is eaten by errant males (7) 25 Admits possessing (4) 27 Cook what a follower could get? (6) 28 Sounds metal, Rob! (5)



Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: I Cereal, 4 Rites, 2 Apple ALROSS: I Ceresi, 4 mass, a appre-5 Iceland, 10 Teeming, 11 Isle, 12 Eel, 14 Vers, 15 Adda, 18 Not, 21 Bare, 23 Oversee, 25 Embella, 28 Doubt, 27 Budge, 28 Brutal. DOWN: I Chaste, 2 Replete, 3 American, 4 Rued, 5 Tesms, 6 Sodden, 7 Hinge, 13 Lavender, 16 Disgust, 17 Cherub, 19 Total, 20 Mental, 22 Rabid, 24 Glue.

1 Error (5)

4 Fat (6)

2 Makes longer (7)

3 Girl's name (5)

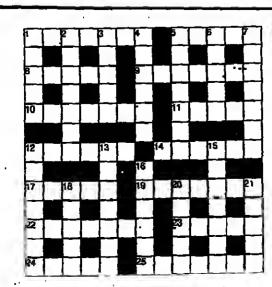
5 Power source (7)

7 Feared greatly (7)

6 Correct (5)

12 Not fact (7)

13 Blow up (7)



#### QUICK CROSSWORD DOWN

ACROSS 1 Emotion (7) 5 Table (5) 8 Undo (5)

9 Utter (7) 10 Bicycles for two (7) 11 Finished (5) 12 Fix (6)

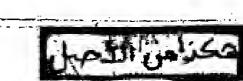
14 Cross-breed (6) 17 Bulldog clip (5) 19 Eternal (7) 22 Irritating (7) 23 --- or crumb (5)

15 Deer (7) 16 Notice (6) 18 Leg joint (5) 20 Russian summer 24 Female relative (5) 25 Showed gratitude house (5)



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CNE Regular Track (7 courses)	52	159	Mon. & Wed, 6 p.m 9 p.m.	Mar. 9	Tue. & Thur. 6 p.m 9 p.m.	June 4
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OLO YISHUY COURT MUSEUM, Life In the Jewish community in the Old city, mld-19th century - World War II. 6 Or Ha-halm, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thur.

0 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ART GUIDE

TEL AVIV TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Surrealm. Prints from the Ci Kramer Collection. Rene Magnitte. A cen-tennial Tribute. Jan Lievens: The Sacrific-es of Isaac.Collections.HELEN RUCHN-STEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPO-RARY ART. Surroundings, group exhibition by British artists on personal and collective identity. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10a.m.-10 p.m. Fit., 10 a.m.-2, p.m. Sal., 10 a.m.-3:p.m. Meyerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. 6919155-8.

### **GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

**GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY** 

PHARMACIES Friday, December 12 Jerusalom: Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 670-6660; Balsam, Salah e-Oln, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate,

Tel Aviv: Benny, 174 Dizengoti, 522-2386; Pe'er Market Jaffa, 61 Yehuda Hayamit, 682-2973. Ra'amana-Ktar Sava: Shoet, 78 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 748-1066. Netanya: Neot Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 835-2484. Halfa: Sieff Square, 1 Shalom Aleichem,

192 Derech Aldo, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818, 192 Derech Aldo, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818, Herzilya: Clai Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Hezzilya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m. 0 5 p.m.

Upper Nazareth: Clai Pharm. Lev Ha'ir

Kravot area: Kupat Holim Clalit Zevulur

Mail, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, December 13 Jerusalem: (day) Jaffa Gate, 628-3898; (evening) Kupat Holim Claff, Straus A, S Avigdori, 670-6660; (day and evening) Balesm, Salah e-Oin, 627-2315; Bhuatat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.Tel Aviv: Block 32 Bloch, 522-6425; Briart, 28 King George, 528-8731. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730; Superpharm London Ministore, 4 Bhaul Hamelech,

Ra'anana-Ktar Sava: (dav) Hesheron, 55 Derech Rametayim, Hod Hasharon, 740-6781; (evening) Margalit mall, Jabotinsky, Hod Hasharon, 740-8681. Netanya: Henassi, 36 Weizmenn, 882-Haita: Hadass, 53 Horev, 826-2673. Krayot area: Kupet Holim Clalit Zevulun,

192 Derget Ruper Hourn Clear Zevillun, 192 Derget Aldro, Kiryat Bialik, 878-781B. Herzilya: Clai Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 8 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzilya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 10

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orthopedies, ophthalmotogy); Hadassah
Ein Kerem (pediatrics); Biltur Holim (ENT).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana
Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv
Medical Center (Internal, surgery).
Metanya: 1 aniado.

Netanya: Laniado. Saturday, December 13 Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (Internal, ENT): Shaare Zedek (surgery, orthopo obstetrics, pediatrics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (ophthalmology). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrica); Tet Aviv Medical Center (Internal, surgery). Notanya: Laniado.

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Jerusalem 561-0303. Tet Aviv 546-1111

(children/youth 546-0739), Rishon Lezion 956-6661/2, Haiia 867-2222, Beersheba

649-4333, Netanya 862-5110, Karmiel 988-8770, Klar Sava 767-4555, Hadera Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Halla 853-0533, Ellat 633-

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THE JERUSALEM

#### HISTADRUT Continued from Page 14

"The Histadrut has the power to give more help to the weaker sectors of the population. It all depends on whether it will use this power for their benefit." Jacobson said.

As for the general strike's effect on the economy, economic consultant Ezra Sadan said it would actually bring more stability. "You can't have a general strike every day. It's better for the government to settle matters with the Histadrut's central leadership than to have to deal in

piecemeal fashion with one local after the other," he said.

Regarding the Finance Ministry's claim that the state is facing a future pension debt to public sector employees of some NIS 300 billion, Sadan said economists who used to work in the Finance Ministry put the figure at about NIS 100 billion. But whatever the real size of the debt, the payments are not due today, but rather will be spread out over

coming decades, noted Jacobson. Israel's pension debt is a serious problem, he said, but throwing out the figure of NIS 300 billion without explanation was a "scare tactic" aimed at winning public support.

The Histadrut came in for widespread condemnation for defying the National Labor Court's back-to-work order. This was a very grave action. The rule of law comes before everything else in a democracy," Jacobson said. While both union locals and employers have defied labor court orders in the past, Jacobson said he could not recall a precedent for the national Histadrut doing so.

At the same time, Jacobson said Neeman had acted in bad faith by refusing to honor the agreement reached last year by Peretz and Shohat. And the gov-

ernment continued a misguided practice of trying to settle its disputes with the Histadrut by rushing to the labor court for restraining orders against striking workers," he said.

National Labor Court President Stephen Adler earns high marks from Jacobson for disregarding Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein's contempt-of-court orders against Peretz, and for facilitating negotiations between the Finance Ministry and the Histadrut, which ended the strike. "Labor disputes." Jacobson declared, "should be settled in negotiations, not in

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# Orlando snaps losing streak against Chicago



FORWARD MOTION - Bulls forward Toni Kukoc is pressured by Magic forward Charles

Panthers 5, Hurricanes 2

Robert Svehla scored a goal and

added two assists as visiting

Florida struck for three second-

Canadiens 4, Blues 3, (OT)

seconds into overtime to cap host

Vincent Damphousse scored 55

period goals in a span of 5:21.

scored 24 of his 26 points in the second half and Orlando made 21 of 23 free throws in the fourth quarter to end its 11-game losing streak against Chicago with a 106-98 vic-tory Wednesday night.

The Magic, who hadn't beaten

the Bulls since November 14, 1995, did it without leading scorer Penny Hardaway, who underwent arthroscopic surgery on his left knee earlier in the day and will be sidelined 8 to 10 weeks.

Michael Jordan struggled from the field, going 6-for-17. He was 13-of-13 at the foul line and finished with 25 points. Toni Kukoo scored 24 and Ron Harper 20 for

Celtics 96, Bucks 91 Travis Knight had 13 points and 10 rebounds and made two free throws with 9.7 second left to help host Boston stop its five game losing streak.

Hornets 104, Wizards 101 The host Hornets blew a 17point lead in the fourth quarter before rallying past Washington, which was playing several hours after teammates Tracy Murray and Rod Strickland exchanged blows.

Cavaliers 102, Nuggets 83 Wesley Person scored 18 points and Shawn Kemp 17 as host Cleveland won its ninth straight, Raptors 104, 76ers 97

Toronto ended a franchise-worst 17-game losing streak as Walt Williams scored 39 points. Warriors 93, Lakers 92

Joe Smith had eight of his 27 points in the fourth quarter as Golden State, winning its second straight at home since Latrell Sprewell's firing, defeated Los

Spurs 102, Clippers 87

scored 30 points to lead host San Antonio to victory. The Spurs, who never trailed,

broke a three-game losing streak.
Trail Blazers 93, Pacers 85 The Trail Blazers blew a 14point halftime lead, then rallied the fourth quarter behind Rasheed Wallace for its third

straight victory. The Pacers concluded a fivegame road trip by losing their second in a row after winning six

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# Devils top Oilers with backup goalie Dunham

EAST RUTHERFORD (AP) – Backup goaltender Mike Dunham Flames over the struggling New York Rangers. made 27 saves and gave New The Rangers gave up the first Jersey a rare win without Martin goal at home for the 16th time in Brodeur in leading the Devils to a 18 games this season as they dropped to 5-7-6 at Madison 4-2 victory over the Edmonton Oilers on Wednesday night Square Garden. They are 1-5-4 Flames 4, Rangers 1 overall in their last 10 games.

In New York, Rick Tabaracci made 30 saves to pace the Calgary

WINNING CARDS yesterday's Mital Habayis daily chance drawing.

Avalanche 2, Leafs 2 Patrick Roy made 51 saves, including four during a five-second span midway through the third period of Colorado's away tie. AROUND THE WORLD

goal deficit.

Stars 3, Lightning 0

Ed Belfour had to stop only 12 shots for his franchise-record seventh shutout and Sergei Zubov had goal and an assist as Dallas extended its home winning streak to seven games.

Coyotes 3, Blackhawks 3 Keith Tkachuk scored a powerplay goal with 7:23 left in regulation as visiting Phoenix tied. Penguins 3, Mighty Ducks 0

Tom Barrasso earned his fourth EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

Montrea's comeback from a three-Buffalo **WESTERN CONFERENCE** 

shutout in his last five road games and Jaromir Jagr scored twice in the first period as Pittsburgh won

Capitals 3, Sharks 3 Peter Bondra's power-play goal with 29 seconds left in the third period gave visiting Washington a

San Jose's Marco Sturm had scored from the right circle with 2:35 left in regulation to give the Sharks a 3-2 lead.

Joe Juneau had tied the game 2-2 at 6:32 of the third period on a shot from eight feet out.

Deadmersh), 11:26, 2, Toronto, Korolev 11 (Sundin, Johnson), 15:50, Second Period—3, Colorado, Velle 4 (Odgers, Krupp), 10:49, Third Period—4, Toronto, Dom' 2 (McCamley, Clark), 5:49, Overline—None, Shots on goal—Colorado 3-7-8-1—19, Toronto 17-11-20-5—53, Goalies—



Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport Information Center

Competition for the design of a poster for Israel's Fiftieth Anniversary

## JUBILEE POSTER

The Information Center announces a competition for the design of a poster marking Israel's Fiftieth Independence Day. The poster should express the joy of the State's Jubilee celebrations

A professional committee will select ten submissions from which the public will be asked to choose the winning poster.

First prize: NIS 10,000 Second prize: NIS 7000 Third prize: NIS 3.500

Participation in the competition will be in accordance with the regulations which can be obtained from the following Information Center offices:

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The Independence Day Poster will be produced by

the Information Center and distributed in Israel and abroad.

#### **NFL Individual Leaders** AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Oursets where show	to Con Vis This	Ormate de de	AN CONFERENCE
Quarterbacks	Att Com Yds TD Inc	Quarterbacks	Att Com Yds TD lat
S. Young, S.E.	310 212 2666 18 6	Elway, Den	435 247 3212 23 8
Chandler, Atl.	302 177 2306 17 7	Bledsoe, N.E.	460 275 3322 25 12
Favre, G.B.	461 274 3455 30 15	Brunell, jac	376 222 2721 16 6
Diller, LB.	353 205 2423 20 9	George, Oak	453 244 3399 25 9
Johnson, Min.	452 275 3036 20 12	O'Donnell, NY-	403 224 2482 17 -5
Alkman, Dal.	449 258 2925 17 9	Marino, Nra	489 284 3434 15 18
Mitchell, Det.	443 255 3107 17 13	Grbac, L.C.	300 174 1892 11 6
Plummer, Ariz	220 121 1786 12 11	Moon, Sea	503 297 3446 21 16
Kramer, Chi.	436 249 2743 13 12	Stewart, Pit	376 204 2667 20 14
T. Detmer, Phi.	244 B4 B67 7 6 ·	Harbaugh, Ind	256 154 1638 5 4
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Sanders, Dec.	293 [73] 5.9 82t 10	Davis, Den	359 1722 4.8 50t 14
Levens, G.B.	294 [29] 4.5 52x 7	Bettis, Pit	347 1585 4.6 34 7
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R. Smith, Min.	195-1005-52 78t 5	Martine B.E.	274 1160 - 42 - 70F - 47
Watters, Phi.	262 985 3.8 28 6	Murell, NT-1	262 970 3.7 43t 5
E. Smith, Dal.	236 966 41 44 3		183 942 5.1 7lt 9
		Dillon, Cin	
Anderson, Atl.	236 772 33 39 6	Faulk, Ind	221 885 4.0 45 4
Dunn, T.R.	185 771 42 52t 4	Brown, S.D.	229 861 3.8 32 4
Allen, Was.	210 724 3.4 34 4	Abdul-Jabbar, Mia	262 832 3.2 22 15
74 1 3 1 1			
Receivers	No Yes Avg LG TD	Receivers	No Yds Avy LG TD
Hoore, Det.	94 1189 12.6 79 7	T. Brown, Oak	86 1187 13.8 59t 5
Rob Moore, Ariz	86 1462 17.0 47t 7	Smith, Jac	74 1180 15.9 75 4
Carter, Min.	83 972 11.7 43 10	HcCardell, Jac	72 954 133 43 4
fryar, Phi.	79 1216 15.4 72t 6	Nison, K.C.	70 1040 14.9 45 7
	70 949 B.6 73t 6	McDuffie, Mia	70 872 12.5 55 1
Morton, Det.			
Sanders, Ariz	67 880 13.1 70t 4	Thigpen, Pit	68 1269 18.7 69t 7
Reed, Min.	65 1098 16.9 56 6	R. Smith, Dea	61 1054 17.3 78 10
Freeman, G.B.	65 1014 15.6 45 9	K. Johason, MY-J	61 882 14.5 39 5
krvin, Dal.	64 1050 16.4 55 9	Harrison, Ind	61 738 12.1 44 5
Emanuel, Att.	59 900 15.3 56 0	Sharpe, Den	59 885 IS.O 45t 2
		Reed, Buf	59 872 14.8 77t 5
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M. Tork, Was.	70 3524 62 45.2	Punters	No Yds LG Avg
Hentrich, G.R.	64 2885 65 45.1	Barker, Jac	58 2663 64 45.9
Royals, N.O.	70 3510 61 45.0	Tupa, N.E.	65 2976 T3 45.8
feagles, Ariz	01 3543 61 43.7	Gardocki, Ind	63 2863 72 45.4
jen, Det.	71 3074 60 43.3	Bennett, S.D.	T7 3457 66 44.9
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Roran, St.L.	63 2700 65 42.9	Araguz, Oak	60 2612 58 43.5
Berger, Min.		Hansen, NY-J	
Sauerbrun, Chi.		Ridd, Mia	
Hatton, Phi.		Aguiar, K.C.	70 3000 65 42.9 55 2353 72 42.8
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		tiebc, Buf	80 3486 59 42.6
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Williams, T.S.	36 441 12.3 63 0 32 374 11.7 36 8	Gordon, Dea	37 503 13.6 94t 3
Uwaeznoke, S.E.	32 374 JL7 36 <b>0</b>	L johnson, MY-j	42 536 12.8 66t 1
Mitchell, Was.	35 406 IL6 63t I	Mercalf, S.D.	39 462 II.8 85t 3
K. Williams, Ariz	36 397 11 <u>.0</u> 58 0	Barlow, Jac	33 387 IL7 52 C
Galiford, N.O.	42 459 10.9 32 0	Meggett, N.E.	39 429 11.0 47 0
Schroeder, G.B.	33 342 10.4 46 0	lordan, Mia	26 273 10.5 38 0
Toomer, NY-G	43 427 9.9 53t 1	Myers, Cin	22 194 8.8 18 6
Milburn, Det.	40 354 8.9 49 0	Burris, Buf	19 161 8.5 20 0
raman, per	10 351 to 10 to	Yangver, K.C.	32 254 7.9 30 0
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Galiford, N.O.	37 967 26.1 102± 1	Vanover, L.C.	47 IZI8 25.9 94t 1
Walker, Dal.	43 1043 24.3 49 8	Duna, Ga	19 487 25.6 85 C
K. Williams, Ariz	47 1127 24.0 63 0	Blackwell, Pit	30 748 24.9 97t l
Hilbarn, Det.	51 1 <b>207 23.7 69 0</b>	Hebron, Den	30 <b>9</b> 28 24.4 46 0
Mitchell, Was.	38 895 23.6 97t l	Heggett, N.E.	31 746 24.1 61 0
Hughes, Chi.	43 1008 23.4 50 0	Spikes, Mia	24 565 23.5 48 0
Staley, Phi.	40 937 23,4 45 0	Bieniestry, Cin	29 601 23.5 102t I
Schroeder, G.B.	22 505 23.0 40 0	Bailey, Ind	55 1206 21.9 61 0
		Howard, Oak	57 1244 21.8 45 0
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R. Harris, Chi.	10 10 0 0 60	R. Smith, Den	10 9 10 0 68
Anderson, Att.	9 6 3 0 54	Stewart, Pit	10 10 0 6 60

#### Martinez, Bosox on verge of \$75m deal

20-29 49 88 21-25 54 87 17-20 55 82

Ricking
Hollis, Jac
Elam, Den
Hare, Mia
Vingtieri, N.E.
Hall, NY-J
G. Davis, Min-S.D.
Sower, Bal
Blanchard, Jad

NEW YORK (AP) - Pedro Martinez has shattered Major League Baseball's salary scale, saying he had agreed to a record \$75 million, six-year contract with the Boston Red Sox.

The deal, which has yet to be

formally announced, would break records for largest contract, Gary Sheffield's \$61 m, 6-year deal with Florida, and highest average annual salary, the \$11.5m Greg Maddux will get during his 5-year contract with Atlanta.



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# SPORTS

#### Inside

#### Magic break **Bulls' Jinx** Page 23

Sports Editors Joe Hottman & Ori Lewis

#### Betar take on Beit She'an amidst Toto fever

#### By DEREK FATTAL

A bumper Toto cash prize over over NIS 12 million is up for grabs this weekend with round 14. Toto booths across the country have reported a huge increase in busi-ness over the last few days with punters vying to get their hands on the biggest windfall this season.

Betar Jerusalem are once again enjoying life at the top of the National League. Last Saturday's narrow 1-0 away victory over Bnet Yehuda Tel Aviv put the Jerusalemites back in first place overtaking former leaders Hapoel Tel Aviv who were held to a draw at Bloomfield by Hapoel

Hapoel Tel Aviv are away to Hapoel Petah Tikva and both sides need a win to avoid slipping away from Betar. The match will be screened live on Channel Two.

Hapoel Ashkelon's new coach Roni Dura could be coaching from the stands later this afternoon. Menashe Nuriel, the man he replaced has declined to accept his agreed compensation in the form of post-dated checks, and the club's currently-approved budget does not extend to paying an additional coaching salary.

This weekend's National League

fixtures: Today: Hapoel Kfar Sava v. Ironi Ashdod, 14:00; Hapoel Ashkelon v. Maccabl Herzliya Ashkelon v. Maccabl Herzliya 14:00. Tomorrow: Maccabi Tel Aviv v. Maccabi Petah Tikva, National Stadium Ramat Gan, 15:30; Betar Jerusalem v. Hapoel Beit Shean, Teddy Stadium, 15:00; Hapoel Haifa v. Bnei Ychuda, Kiryat Eliezer, 15:00; Ironi Rishon Lezion v. Maccabi Haifa, 14:30; Hapoel Beersheba v. Hapoel Jerusalem, 14:30; Hapoel Petah Tikva v. Hapoel Tel Aviv 17:15.

N	atio	mal	Le	agu	e		
	GP	W	D	ī	GF	GA	Pts
Betar Jerusalem	13	7	6	0	30	14	27
Hapoel Tel Aviv	13	7	5	1	13	6	26
Hapoel Haifa	B	7	4	2	24	14	25
Hap Pecah Tikva	В	7	3	3	72	16	24
Maccabi Haifa	B	6	3	4	23	16	21
Ironi Ashdod	13	5.	6	2	18	15	21
Hapoel Jerusaleo		5	5	3	17	17	20
Happel Kfar Sava		6	ī	6	16	17	19
Maccabi Herzliya		4	4	5	19	18	16
Ironi Rishon Lezio		3	5	5	16	20	14
Maccabi Tel Aviv		3	4	6	14	17	В
Mac Petab Tikva		2	7	4	9	В	13
Baci Yeliuda	13	2	5	6	12	18	11
Happel Ashledon		3	2	8	ß	23	ii
HapBeit She an	13	ž	4	ī	10	18	10
Hagoel Beersheha		ī	4	8	14	28	ĩ

SCOREBOARD UEFA Cup: Vfl Bochum 2, Ajax Amsterdam 2. Ajax advances to quarter-finals on 6-4 aggregate.

England-India: In the opening match of the Champions Trophy tournament yesterday at Sharjah, UAE. Scores: England 250 all out in 49.5 overs. India 243 all out in 49.3 overs.

South Africa-New Zealand: In their World Series limited overs international yesterday in Hobart. Scores: SA 174 for nine, NZ 173 for seven in 50 overs.

# Turks send Maccabi TA reeling

## Hapoel Jerusalem remain in EuroLeague cellar

#### By BRIAN FREEMAN

Efes Pilsen became the first Turkish team ever to win at Yad Eliahu, sending Maccabi Tel Aviv to a 70-61 defeat last night in EuroLeague action.

The loss, which drops Maccabi's record to 4-5, means that it must defeat defending European champions Olympiakos in Greece and hope for an Efes victory over CSKA Moscow next week in order to finish third in Group A and earn the right to play the three weakest clubs in Group B in the

eague's next stage.

Maccabi still advances to the next stage if it fails to finish in the top three, but it then must play the top three teams in Group B in

order to advance to the Final 16. The game was much closer than the score indicated, as neither team held more than a five-point advan-

tage for all but the last 30 seconds. Superstar Petar Naumaski upheld his reputation as a thorn in Maccabi'a side. He was held to only five points in the game's first 27 minutes, at which point Maccabi held its largest advantage

of the game, 45-41. But then he exploded for 14 points in the final 13 minutes, including his first two three-pointers of the game, to lead a charge which sent the capacity crowd home wondering what happened.

One obvious factor was the subpar play of Oded Katash, who suffered from the fly during the

fered from the flu during the week.Katash, who came into the contest as the leading scorer in EuroLeague play with a 23.6 average, scored only four points on the night on 1-10 shooting.

To make matters worse, he also turned the ball over several times at crucial junctures and had three 3-point attempts blocked, one of which turned into a fast-break basket for Naumaski and sparked the Turks on a 11-4 run to open up a 57-52 advantage with only 5:45 remaining in the game.

Maccabi, in fact, recovered at that point to cut the margin and was behind only 63-61 as late as 90 seconds remaining, but the Turkish defense, one of the best in

#### Europe, kept the Israelis off the scoreboard for the rest of the

Maccabi entered the game as the fifth best three-point shooting team (out of 24 teams) at 39.8%, but fin-

ished the night only 3-11 (27%).

Tel Aviv also brought into the contest the best free-throw shooting percentage in the EuroLeague, but in the last 10 minutes of the game both Rashard Griffith and Randy White missed two free throws which could have turned the tide.

And in the first half an inexcusable foul by Constantin Popa at the buzzer cost Maccabi two cru-

For Maccabi, Griffith had 17 points, Doron Sheffer 13, Nadav Henefeld 9, Randy White 8, Derrick Sharp 6, and Katash and Popa 4 each.

For Efes, Naumaski and Howard both had 19, Mirsad Turkcan had 13. Murat Evliyaoglu 11 (double his EuroLeague average). Tamar Oyguc 6 and Rod Sellers 2.

Meanwhile, Hapoel Jerusalem

lost a chance to get out of the Group C cellar by losing to Pau-Orthez 79-67 before a packed

house at Malha. Doron Shefa paced Hapoel with 21 points, while Kenny Williams and Motti Daniel each had 13. For Pau, Mustafa Sonko led the way with 15, while Thierry Gadou had 14.

Group A
In Moscow: CSKA Moscow 83.
Limoges 70.
In Athens: Olympiakos Piraeus 82.
Real Madrid 75.

Group C In Belgrade: Partizan Belgrade 49, Kinder Bologna 74.

Gr	oup.	A		
	W	L	Pts.	
Olympiakis	7	2	16	
Eles Pilsen	5	4	14	
CSEA Moscow	5	4	14	
Maccabi Tel Aviv	4	Š	13	
Limoges	3	6	12	
Real Pladrid	3	6	12	
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Kinder Bologua	1	٦,	17	
Barcelota	5	ż	Ĭ3	
Partisan Belgrade	4	5	ii	
Pag-Orthez	à	5	ï	
Eller	í		ũ	
Hapoel Jerusalem	ž	5	ii	
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LOOKING FOR DAYLIGHT - Thierry Gadou of Pau Orthez looks for an opening as he is guarded by Hapoel Jerusalem's Kenny Williams during first-half action. The French side won, 79-67, leaving the capital hoopsters at the bottom of the standings. (Reales)

#### Last respects paid to Billy Bremner

DONCASTER (AP) - Fans, teammates and coaches paid their last respects yesterday to Billy Bremner, the former Leeds and Scotland star who died Sunday at the age of 54.

Hundreds of fans, many in tears, stood outside St. Mary's

Church in silence to listen to the, funeral mass for Bremner. "I knew him for a long time,"

said Manchester United manager and fellow Scot Alex Ferguson, "He still had the same great enthusiasm for Leeds. He was a great player for Leeds United and Scotland."

The mourners also included former Leeds' teammates Johnny Giles, Norman Hunter Peter Lorimer and Eddie Gray.

## Nebraska: Coach Osborne retires, defensive EuroCup favorites end Wistrom wins Lombardi award

LINCOLN, Nebraska (AP) -Tom Osborne retired as football coach at Nebraska on Wednesday, ending an era at the school in which he became one of US college football's most successful eoaches and the Comhuskers

ruled the sport. He will coach the No. 2 Cornhuskers against No. 3 Tennessee in the Orange Bowl on January 2 and said he may stay on until February if he can help the

"I think it's wise to back off before you leave feet first or somebody tells me it's time to go," Osborne said.

Longtime assistant Frank Solich, the running backs coach,

will succeed Osborne, pending approval from the university Board of Regents.

Osborne said his health played a role in his decision. The 60-yearold eoach had heart bypass surgery 13 years ago and was diagnosed with an irregular heart beat this year.

Osborne weathered criticism in recent years over his decisions to allow players facing criminal charges to stay on the field. He came under sharp criticism in 1995 for his decision to reinstate star tailback Lawrence Phillips to the team even after Phillips pleaded no contest to charges of assaulting a former girlfriend.

For a quarter-century, Osborne

and Nebraska have been perennial powers, winning consecutive national titles in 1994 and 1995 while compiling a 254-49-3 mark with 24 straight bowl appear-

The Cornhuskers (12-0) may have a shot at a third national title in four years - if they win the Orange Bowl and top-ranked Michigan loses to Washington State in the Rose Bowl. Osborne retires as the sixth win-

ningest coach in Division I-A history, behind Bear Bryant, Pop Warner, Amos Alonzo Stagg, Joe Paterno and Bobby Bowden. Osborne leaves at the top. The Cornhuskers are 59-3 over the past

five years with five straight 11-win seasons, an NCAA best He said the difficult part about

retiring was telling his glayers. "I care very very much about those guys so that's what's been most difficult," he said. "I hope at some point they will realize that 1'm trying to do what's the best thing for them." Wistrom wins

Lombardi award

Just hours after learning that his coach was retiring. Nebraska defensive end Grant Wistrom got

good news that he had won the Lombardi Award as the nation's top collegiate lineman.

Wistrom, a 6-foot-5 (1.96m), 250-pound (112kg) senior, was a main cog in the defense that helped the Cornhuskers take a 12-0 record into Osborne's final game as coach. Wistrom eredited Osborne for his success.

"The man meant the world to me the last four years," Wistrom said. "He praised me when I needed praise and he scolded me when I needed scolding. He's been a father to me away from my own father. Next to my father, I respect him the most."

Wistrom, the school's career leader in tackles for losses, became . Nebraska's fourth Lombardi winner and first since Dean Steinkuhler in 1983.

On Monday, he was named Big 12 defensive player of the year for

the second year in a row.

Wistrom beat ont Greg Ellis of N.

Carolina, Andy Katzenmoyer of
Ohio St. and Andre Wadsworth of Florida St. for the 28th annual trophy, named in honor of former Green Bay and Washington coach "Winning-is-the-only-thing" Vince

LONDON (Reuters) Manchester United were quoted as 5-2 favorites to win the European Cup following the last round of group matches in the Champions' League on Wednesday.
William Hill bookmakers gave

the odds for the eight teams in the quarter-finals as follows: 5-2 Manchester United, 11-4 Juventus, 5-1 Real Madrid, 6-1 Bayern Munich, 9-1 Borussia Dortmund, 12-1 Dynamo Kiev, 14-1 Monaco, 16-1 Bayer

#### 4 Israeli rackets reach quarter-finals

Four Israelis have reached today's quarter-finals of the \$50,000 Club Hotel Eilat Tennis Challenger.

Top local player and eighth seed Eyal Erlich, Eyal Ran, Noam Behr and Amir Hadad all succeeded yesterday while only two seeded foreign players survived to the final eight. They are first- and second seeds Dominik Hrbaty from Slovakia and Dinu Pescariu from Romania.

Erlich will meet Hrbaty, Ran will take on Neville Godwin from South Africa, and Behr and Hadad will face each other in today's matches. The last quarter-final will pit Pescariu against Finn Thomas Ketola. Heather Chait



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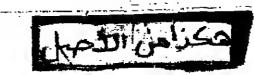
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